

Sackville News



Friday 23rd July 2021



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Dear Parents and Carers

As we get to the end of our second school year which has been heavily affected by the pandemic, I would like to start by **thanking the entire Sackville community for their support and assistance over the last eighteen unprecedented months**. Without such a wonderful group of students, parents, carers and staff my last full year at the helm would have been almost impossible.

The beginning of next year is now becoming clearer, and we know we will have a **staggered start and once again be testing all students for COVID before they start back**. There is more information later in this newsletter.

In the meantime, a **lot has been happening at Sackville**. Being able to run **sports days**, albeit behind closed doors, was a sign of a return to normal. The enthusiasm was palpable for our year 7s and 8s; you could hear their cheers throughout the school! I always find the effort that students put into these days impressive and the support they give each other particularly heartening.



None of this would be possible without the organisation and drive of our PE teachers, and the support of an ensemble cast of other staff and older students who support each event. It was unfortunate for year 9 that their day of sport was cancelled due to the weather.

Next year I hope that we will be able to host sports days for all four year groups, and also invite parents in as spectators once again.

We are fast approaching the end of term, but **life for our senior students remains busy**. Many of our **year 11s** have been back in school **attending taster sessions**. The first picture below shows a biology class. Meanwhile our year 12 students, fresh out of their **progression exams**, focussed on their futures on Monday 12th July, with **individual appointments with their tutors**, and input from outside advisors. A special thanks to **Kate Averre** for giving up a day of her time to talk to our **Oxbridge cohort**.



Also on that Monday several of our students presented their EPQs (**Extended Project Qualifications**). These projects require a substantial amount of individual research and work, and are highly valued by universities. Well done to **Ciara Humphrey, Sophie Taylor, Taylor Goodall, Ben Salter, Zara Keetley, Hannah Sisley, Holly Aston and Leo Gott**, whose EPQs ranged from the Bayeux Tapestry to artificial intelligence.

Our **year 12 geography students** went to London last week to look at the geography of urban regeneration in the Docklands area. This trip gives them a strong head start on their assessed project, as well as sharpening their fieldwork skills. Thank you to **Mr Gerretsen** and **Mr Johnson** for organising the trip.



As a history teacher I am delighted that we were able to present the inaugural **Michael Leppard History Prize** last week. The prize is in memory of former teacher Michael Leppard who passed away in 2019, and is sponsored by the [East Grinstead Society](#) of which Michael was a founder member.



Entrants were asked to produce a short project on the **history of the town**, and this year the prize was shared by four year 7 and 8 students. Well done to **Tomas Dewberry, Giselle Currie, Elsa Woodcock** and **Lilly Hill**. Each student received a **£25 WH Smith voucher**, presented by Mr James Baldwin, Chair of the East Grinstead Society.

Next year students will be able to work on an entry for the prize in our extra-curricular history club.



This week has been particularly busy, with some events rescheduled from earlier in the year. I'd like to thank our **remarkable staff for doing back-to-back evening events this week** to support our students. On Monday we were delighted to welcome in our **new year 6 students**, each with one parent, for a socially distanced briefing in the hall where I was joined by Mr Endersby and Mr Street, followed by a chance to meet the students' new tutor. We have missed our three-day transition programme this year, but are looking forward to our year 7s coming in for their **induction day on Monday September 6th**.

On Tuesday afternoon it was the turn of the students at the other end of the school. An unorthodox end to an unorthodox two years, but we managed to say goodbye and good luck to our **year 13 students with an afternoon tea** served by the school leadership team. With the current rise in COVID rates we felt it was safer not to hold the usual style of sixth form prom, the second year we have had to cancel it. Instead, a good number of the year group enjoyed a very warm and luckily dry afternoon beneath the large Sackville oak tree and reminisced about their time at school, and their unique sixth form experience, with so much of it home learning.



This year group have been amazingly resilient in rising to the challenges presented by the COVID period and have worked so hard to secure good grades in the summer assessment series. Goodbye and good luck, class of 2021; we are going to miss you. Special thanks go to **Mrs Barden** and **Mrs Smith**, and the **canteen team** who went a long way beyond the call of duty to make this happen. We are extremely grateful also to **Amber T** for providing quality live entertainment, and to **Lisa Hepburn** and **Balloon Boutique** who stepped in at the last minute to provide a balloon arch.



On Wednesday we held our **year 11 prom**. This, again, was toned down slightly from the usual event for safety reasons. Students arrived in their finery and in a collection of amazing



vehicles for the journey to the Reigate Manor Hotel. As well as a sumptuous meal, they were treated to their leavers' assembly and entertaining speeches from the staff. It was actually my 28th year 11 prom in succession and my final one as a Headteacher, so I can't deny it being rather special! I would like to express many thanks to **Mrs Sands, Mr**

Millican and Mrs Newcomb who have put in many hours of work this year to get our rescheduled prom to run, and to our year 11 tutor team and wider staff who had a very late night on Wednesday.



The end of the school year is always a **time to say some fond farewells**. But first, I would like to congratulate **Holly Warran**, who is getting married in the summer, and thank **Marion Tingley** for her work as year leader. She has decided to step down from the role this summer to enable her to focus on studying for a master's degree. Mrs Sands becomes the new year leader for next year's year 9s. Next year's year 8 will be led by **Jonathan Pearson**, a new appointment to the school.

We say goodbye and good luck to two of our English teachers this summer. **Sarah Salisbury** is relocating to Suffolk and leaves us after three years of dedicated service. **Radha Stuart**, our distinguished leader of English, has secured a promotion to Assistant Headteacher at Holy Trinity School in Crawley, and leaves after seventeen years. Radha's exceptional teaching has left a love of literature with a generation of Sackville students, and she will be sorely missed. Also over in English, **Louise Rogers** commences her second maternity leave.

From our Modern Foreign Languages Department, **Jess Spearman**, our outstanding teacher of Spanish, will be leaving us this summer to relocate back to the North East. **Gina Belliere**, our Foreign Language Assistant for German who has worked so tirelessly to support our linguists, will be also be leaving us this summer.

Upstairs in A block, **Catherine Cunningham**, one of our science technicians who has worked here tirelessly for 17 years, is retiring at the end of the academic year and we wish her well. From computer science, **Michel Sacramento** is moving to St Bede's School Redhill.

After many years of service to Sackville, **Sue Smeaton** has secured a promotion to the post of Head of Food and Nutrition at Mayfield Girls' School from September. Sue has been a great servant of Sackville and we will miss her.



Finally, **Steve Latus**. Colleagues will know that I am never lost for words, but where do I begin with a man who has given his **entire 42-year teaching career to Sackville**? Steve is a cornerstone of the school and I almost fear for the fabric of the institution when he leaves. Steve was a head of year for 25

years, and he is now teaching many grandchildren of the students who were here when he first arrived in 1979. Our farewell BBQ on Thursday, and our final game of staff football on Wednesday, were the least we could do to say thank-you. We wish him a fantastic retirement.

With that, all that is left for me is to wish you all a healthy and relaxing summer. We'll see you all again in September.

Julian Grant
Headteacher



Thank-you to TASEG

Mr Heatley writes:-

We recently received a **new portable, battery powered PA speaker** thanks to the generous donation to the music department from **The Arts Society East Grinstead (TASEG)**. The new speaker will allow us to be more versatile when playing outdoors, needing minimal setup and resources due to its ability to run on batteries. It was used for the year 13 afternoon tea (pictured on page 2).

TASEG have historically been very supportive of our young artists and musicians at Sackville and for this we are very thankful. Please do have a look at their website to find out more about TASEG and how you can get involved with what they offer <https://taseg.org.uk/>

LRC report

Mrs Rose writes:-

Some normality came back to the LRC this term with the LRC reopening to students on 6th June. It was lovely to welcome back students from all year groups even though we had to set different days for different year groups to visit during break and lunchtimes. The year 7s had never been into the LRC so it was great to see them as excited as we were to have them in. Also regular library reading lessons could begin with year 7-9 English lessons again. Nearly back to normal!

We have held a couple of competitions to get things going, the last one called *Flash Fiction* closed last Friday. This was launched as part of *Reading Week* organised by the English department to focus on the importance of reading. Students were asked to write a complete story in 50-100 words. Not that easy, but nearly 100 entries were received and read! It was so difficult to decide so I picked two winners, **Bailey Granger 10DGN** and **Barnaby Crawl 7JCK**; see their stories below. There were 3 runners up: **Julia Botten 9RWN**, **Eden Kosifou 9RWN** and **Giuseppe Day 7RSH**. Barnaby and Giuseppe are pictured receiving their awards here.



All the entries were fantastic and show how much talent there is amongst the Sackville students. But, sadly, I can only give a limited number of prizes!

Just a reminder that all library books should be returned before the end of term, however, if you should find one during the holidays while tidying, please return as soon as we return to school in September.

Have a wonderful summer break and don't forget to have a look at the LRC website at <https://uk.accessit.online/sck00/#!dashboard> as there is a competition for the summer, Olympic news, Author videos and other interesting links to view which may be of interest.

Bailey Granger 10DGN

One day a woman entered the hospital.
The next day she left with a child.
In a Year the first words had been spoken.
Mere months later it learnt to stand.
From there it learnt to walk and run.
Swimming made an appearance.
Years later and it started school.
It ignored bullies and followed its own rules.
Teachers and parents would never understand it.
Teenage, it had a hard time.
One day the parents entered the hospital.
The next day they left without a child.
The ashes would remain in the murky waters.
Its final resting place.
(97 words)

Death's door

By Barnaby Crawl 7JCK

Suffering crept along the walls,
pain leaked from the air vents.
All lights flicker out and die here,
the devil lurks outside the window.
Life seeps out through the floorboards.
Death's house hangs suspended over a fiery pit laden with crying souls.
The house pipes that hung from underneath emitted a gas.
The gas was so dense that the atmosphere itself would suffocate in the pure malice within it.
This is hell and you aren't ever getting out.
(80 words)

Year 7 and 8 Sports Day winners

Congratulations to 7JCK and 8SKN, winners of the junior sports days.



Sackville Reading Week

Ms Godden writes:-

A fortnight ago, students across the school enjoyed Reading Week and participated in a range of activities. We had a **virtual author visit from Meg Rosoff** for year 9, **stop, drop and read every day**, reading focused lessons for Key Stage 3 in most subjects, staff reading in the library at lunch times, a flash fiction competition and Sackville's own World Book Day on the Friday to make up for the one we missed during lockdown in March - really, the English department just can't resist fancy dress!

I know Mr Grant mentioned this in the last Sackville News, but it was too late to include this photo of the English department dressed up.



Maths is sweet!

End of term maths was even better than usual for **Ms Jeffcoat's year 8s** this week. Students used smarties to make themselves smarter, doing work on fractions, ratios, percentages and bar charts.



Start of term September 2021

In order to allow **students to undertake a lateral flow test before they return**, schools are implementing staggered starts in September. Students will also have a second test once at school, and we are taking our annual photos too. We are also taking the fingerprint scan of all new year 7s for our canteen payment system. Here is a summary of how the start of the year will work for each year group.

Parents of year 7 students are welcome to accompany them for this initial lateral flow test. Students are of course also welcome on their own!

Year Group	Wednesday 01/09/21	Thursday 02/09/21 INSET DAY 1	Friday 03/09/21 INSET DAY 2	Monday 06/09/21	Tuesday 07/09/21	Wednesday 08/09/21	Thursday 09/09/21	Friday 10/09/21
7	Holiday	Holiday	Testing/ biometrics capture	In school Transition activities	In school Photos Tutor time until 9am	Testing/ in school Tutor time until 9am	In school	In school
8	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Testing	In school Photos Tutor time until 9am	In school	Testing/ in school
9	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Testing	In school Photos Tutor time until 9am	In school	Testing/ in school
10	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Testing	In school Photos Tutor time until 9am	In school Tutor time until 9am	Testing/ in school	In school
11	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Testing	In school Tutor time until 9am	In school Photos Tutor time until 9am	Testing/ in school	In school
12	Enrolment (new students only)	Holiday	Testing/ Biometrics capture	In school Lessons from p2	In school Photos Tutor time until 9am	Testing/ in school	In school	In school
13	Holiday	Holiday	Testing	At home	In school Tutor time until 9am	Testing/ in school	In school	In school

Students will come in for their lateral flow tests in registration groups, according to the timetable here.

Friday 3rd September	
08:30	12/13AHN
08:40	12/13MBD
08:50	12/13ACR
09:00	12/13ADT
09:15	12/13GSE
09:25	12/13SHK
09:35	12/13LBE
09:45	12/13MBH
10:00	12/13RLN
10:10	12/13SRS
10:20	12/13MPR
10:30	7JBV
10:45	7KOR
11:00	7AMS
11:15	7JBK
11:30	7JMR
11:45	7DPT
12:00	7MTY
12:15	7MLE
12:30	7VSR
12:45	7ACE

Monday 6th September	
08:30	11SDT
08:40	11LRS
08:50	11LMD (DMY)
09:00	11EWE
09:15	11IGN
09:25	11JDY (JFG)
09:35	11EGN (LRR)
09:45	11DGN
10:00	11AVE
10:10	11KHL
10:20	10SBP
10:40	10ADN
10:50	10HGN
11:00	10LWM(JSN)
11:15	10LST
11:25	10MHY
11:35	10MJN
11:45	10OBO
12:00	10RWN
12:10	10SOL

Tuesday 7th September	
08:30	8SJT
08:40	8HGS
08:50	8JHS
09:00	8JCK
09:15	8FLD
09:25	8PWX
09:35	8RSH
09:45	8TMT
10:00	8THR
10:10	8BDS
10:20	9CHD
10:40	9EWS
10:50	9HWN
11:00	9KPE
11:15	9MTE
11:25	9OSE
11:35	9SKN
11:45	9JBH (SSY)
12:00	9SWB
12:10	9ZAA

Exam results

Just a reminder that GCE and level 3 vocational exam results (mainly year 13) come out on **Tuesday 10th August** and GCSE and level 2 vocational results (mainly years 10 and 11) come out on **Thursday 12th August**. We will **email these out** to students' school email addresses shortly after 8.30am on each day.

Last year it took up to an hour for the messages to be delivered by Capita as almost every school was doing the same thing. We will be open from 9.00am each day if students want to come in and get results instead.

As befits a very different exam season, there is a **different appeals process** this year. There is full guidance on this process from the Joint Council for Qualifications [here](#) (see pages 6-8). We have copies of the appeals form on our website. A *Word* version is available [here](#) for candidates who wish to complete using a computer, and a pdf version [here](#), for those who wish to print out and complete by hand.

Unlike in normal years when we have the benefit of student marks and grade boundaries to guide decisions about which grades to query, it is important to note that the result of an appeal in 2021 is that **grades could go down**. If a grade does go down after an appeal, it will not be possible to revert to the original grade.

Standards and Expectations:

Mr Street writes:-

As we approach the summer holidays and following a period of grace in what has been a turbulent year I think it is important to remind you of Sackville's high expectations of students before the new academic year to avoid any unnecessary confusion at the start of term.

'Give Me 5' is a simple and memorable way of summarising our high expectations. The poster below clearly displays our five expectations and I hope you will agree these are standards that our community would want from all young people both in and out of school.

Sackville School

Give Me 5



Sackville is a **Rights Respecting School**

Our school has high expectations, in that we:



Display a **POSITIVE ATTITUDE** and try our best



RESPECT the school, one another and use appropriate language



BEHAVE RESPECTFULLY and follow staff instructions



Follow the **UNIFORM CODE**



Are part of a **RESPECTFUL COMMUNITY** and support one another

Sackville School

Together We Achieve



School Uniform:

We fully appreciate that school uniform has been more difficult to purchase at times over the last twelve months and that many students have demonstrated their individuality with regards to haircuts and colour during periods of lockdown. I would appreciate that parents assist students in addressing issues regarding uniform and appearance over the summer so they can return to school in September ready to learn and following our uniform guidelines.

Uniform guidelines are set out in the tables below and can be viewed on the school website by following this link, <https://sackville.w-sussex.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads//2015/04/uniform-website.pdf>

Skirt Uniform

Navy pleated skirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knee length or just above
Navy tailored trousers of a boot cut or straight leg variety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No skin tight trousers • No leggings, jeggings, jeans or jean style trousers, wide flares, culottes or shorts • No belts with a visible buckle
Light blue blouse with revered collar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any garment worn underneath must not be seen at all
Navy V neck jumper with school logo	
White, black or navy socks OR flesh coloured/black tights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No multi-coloured socks • No leggings instead of tights
Black, flat footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No high heels, decorations or any other colour, boots of any kind or sandal style • Canvas shoes are permitted

Trouser Uniform

Charcoal grey or black trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No light grey trousers• No excessively tight trousers• No jeans style trousers or jeans
Navy V neck jumper with school logo	
Blue shirt with collar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The neck must be wide enough for the top button to be comfortably fastened• Any garment worn underneath must not be seen at all
Navy clip on tie with the school logo	
Black shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No different coloured decoration or logo or boots of any kind• Canvas shoes are permitted

In addition to the above it is also worth noting that:

- No jewellery other than a wrist watch and a set of plain stud earrings are acceptable. Any other piercings of any kind will be asked to be removed.
- Shirts must be worn tucked in.
- Nail varnish and acrylic nails are not permitted.
- Extreme haircuts and colours are not permitted. Grade 2 or below and tram lines of any description are not allowed. Hair colour must be natural and dip dyes are not acceptable.
- Make up in year 9 or above must be discreet, particularly eye make-up.

At Sackville we believe that 'Together we Achieve' and parents can support the school in educating students in how best to behave in a respectful, responsible and appropriate way, ensuring all students uphold our high expectations.

As always, I thank you for supporting us to ensure that all Sackville students can be proud of their appearance, behaviour and conduct. Should you have any questions about the uniform or our high expectations then please do not hesitate to contact your child's Year Leader or me.

Finally, I wish you all a safe, relaxing and pleasant summer. Fingers crossed the good weather continues.

West Sussex Early Help Summer Offer

Are you finding the summer holidays difficult? Do you need someone to talk to? If so please call the Integrated Front Door on 01403 229900 or email us at

WSChildservices@westsussex.gov.uk and tell us you would like a face to face summer offer appointment.

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- Common Health Conditions
- Understanding Common Childhood Illnesses
- Understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences

I hadn't formally studied in over 15 years, so the thought of 'going back to school' was initially quite a daunting prospect. However, I need not have worried. The induction meeting with my assessor was very reassuring and I quickly established a routine to complete the coursework around my other commitments at home. My assessor has guided and supported me through every step of the course; giving regular constructive feedback, encouraging me and helping me to improve and refine the content of my coursework. The whole experience has been enlightening and a huge boost to my confidence.

For more information on any of the above courses,
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