

Sackville News



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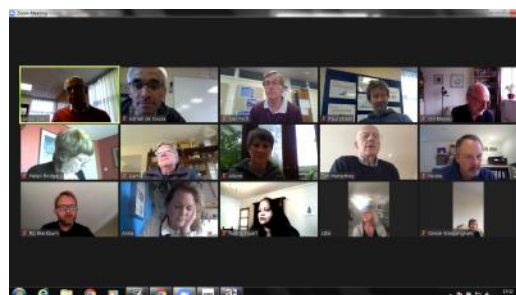
15th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

You may well now be aware that **plans are being made nationally for some students to return to school**. The government's Department of Education (DfE) suggest that schools should aim to provide face-to-face contact with teachers for students in **years 10 and 12** in the second half of the summer term, in a safe context. Students in **years 7-9** meanwhile are not likely to return to school until September.

As we plan for the phased return of students I want to reassure you that the **welfare and safety of students and staff will be my primary consideration**, alongside providing the best education possible for our students. A team led by Mr Bush and Mrs Beeney is now hard at work considering what could be provided under a regime of **strict physical distancing**. It is important to get this right, so it is likely to be a fortnight or more after half term when we can begin to accommodate students. This is also in line with **DfE advice** which urges an **eased return**. It would **not be on a normal timetable** as groupings would be **small** with **minimal student movement** on site. I am in regular contact with **headteachers of local and Mid-Sussex schools** to try to ensure that we adopt a **common approach** to the challenges of the coming months. Alongside other colleagues, I will keep you **carefully updated** on this and on year 7-9 remote learning developments through Sackville News and additional communications, as necessary.

In all of these discussions of course our **governing body** has a central role. Like so many of us over the last two months, our governors have learned to love conversations over *Zoom*. This image is from our meeting on Monday of this week. As well as getting **updates about remote learning** and **plans for the rest of this term**, this meeting also had to **approve the budget for the new financial year** – no small task. I would like to thank the governors for their work,



particularly during this difficult period. The school would not function without their time, given so willingly and for free.



Many from our community were involved in the celebrations of **VE Day last Friday**. At 10.59 am **Wilfie Fenn-Wood** in year 7 joined virtually with his scout and guide band to play the 'Last Post' as the country prepared to observe a two-minute silence. There is a video of this [on our website](#).



Johannes Kool of **Imberhorne School**, son of our Senior Science Technician, is also pictured here playing the cornet as 11.00 am approached. Johannes was one of six cornet players in



Crawley Down who managed to play simultaneously in different parts of the village.

Miss Offler managed to capture some fantastic photos of the **Spitfire as it dipped its wings over the Queen Victoria Hospital** in recognition of the work done there during the war by Sir Archibald McIndoe and his team.

I hope a number of you managed to complete **Mrs Fleming's quiz** last weekend. It certainly challenged the members of the SLT who tried it! It's great to have different things to divert ourselves over these closure



weekends, and I would like to thank Mrs Fleming for taking the time to out the quiz together.

I wonder how many of our students are learning to cook over the closure period. It was certainly lovely to hear that our year 9 students **Beth Currie** and **Mia Carew** are the **Sussex winners** of the national [Create and Cook Competition](#).

Their mouth-watering dish was chosen because of the **use of local ingredients**.

Illustrated here you can see Tablehurst Farm lamb kofka with tzatziki dressing, Greek salad with High Weald Feta cheese & homemade flatbreads, Sussex berry pavlova with Sussex cream and raspberry coulis. It's made me hungry just writing this down!



The girls worked really hard getting everything done as closure and lockdown loomed. Well done to both – there are at least two households who will be eating well at this time!



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SUSSEX WINNER

Mia and Beth, Sackville School, East Grinstead, Sussex - Tablehurst Farm lamb kofka with tzatziki dressing, Greek salad with High Weald Feta cheese & homemade flatbreads; Sussex berry pavlova with Sussex cream and raspberry coulis

Local ingredients: Tablehurst Farm lamb, flour and eggs; High Weald Dairy feta cheese; Plawhatch Farm yogurt and cream; local PYO strawberries.

Please see our social media for the judges announcements and reaction to the winners. We'll also be featuring our winning recipes on social media over the next few weeks. So please stay with us and also stay safe.

With best wishes for the weekend,

Julian Grant

Headteacher