# Sackville News



22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the half-term break it seems hard to believe that we would normally be in the thick of the exam season at this time.

Things are gradually changing regarding the national picture in education; our focus now is to **safely take steps towards receiving young people in school once again**. As I talk to my colleagues it is clear is **how much we have all missed the students over the last two months**, and how much once again we all want to work with them in person.

Our approach remains to **safeguard the well-being of everyone in the Sackville community**. At the heart of our plans therefore will be **hand hygiene** and **physical distancing**. Our planning will allow both students and staff to remain two metres apart at all times at school. As you can imagine, there are a number of provisions we have to put in place to ensure this happens, and because of this we will be taking a **carefully phased approach next half-term**.

- Given that we now know that **years 7 and 8** will not be returning to school until the new academic year, we are stepping up the number of **live lessons** using Google Meets for these year groups. Parents and students have told us how much they value these.
- During the first two weeks back after half term, we are reintroducing specialist teaching for the children of key workers who are attending school. As we move towards a more formal in-school provision, these students will return after half-term in uniform, and receive daily lessons from specialist teachers in English, maths, science, history and geography. These lessons will take place in our newly re-purposed 'physically distancing' classrooms with external entry doors.



- □ At the same time we will be holding transition interviews for our new year 6 students and their families. We think it is very important that we make the move to secondary education as smooth as possible even in these constrained times. We are also currently planning for small groups of year 6 students to come into Sackville for transition sessions in July.
- On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June, we plan to invite year 9 students into school in small groups for some specialist beliefs and values teaching in preparation for their GCSE next year. For the rest of the term year 9 will remain at home to engage with our remote learning and live lessons.
- □ From June 15<sup>th</sup>, we will plan for years 10 and 12 to have some face-to-face sessions with their teachers. Students will be grouped carefully to ensure minimal movement onsite and avoiding corridors. Further details on this will follow soon after half term.

Of course, all of this is contingent on any new recommendations that might be made by the government, and we will therefore update you with more detail on our provision for years 9, 10 and 12 after half term. I reiterate again though that everything we do will be based on hand hygiene and physical distancing to ensure there is a minimum risk of COVID transmission within the community.

We were very appreciative of the **feedback parents gave us** at the end of the spring term **about remote learning**, which will remain the diet for the majority of our students. To ensure we are still doing the best we can for these young people, we will be hosting a **parental focus group over Zoom at 4pm on Monday**  **June 1**<sup>st</sup>. Discussion will centre on how to maximise student learning at home. Should you wish to take part in this focus group, please email <u>Mr Street</u> who will send you the joining details.

June 1<sup>st</sup> is also when we extend a very warm welcome to **Ms Porter**, who joins us as **Head of Sociology** from **Archbishop Tenison's school** in Croydon. We wish her well at Sackville!

Later in Sackville News Mrs Valentine writes about the **new year 13 student head team**. For the first time this year, every applicant was interviewed (virtually of course) and the standard of these interviews was testament to the quality of the students. I would like to thank Mr Watson in particular for organising this process. I am really looking forward to seeing the **fine impact on school life** that the new team will make. I would also like to thank profoundly the **outgoing Head Team** which has been really wonderful this year. I will miss their hard work, passion for the school and their good humour!

In another indication of life going on, you can read later about how year 11 student **Amber Titchener** is using her time in lockdown to plan her impressive assault on the music charts.

Once again, **thank-you for everything you are doing to support your children's learning**. Half-term should be a break for everyone, and teachers are not setting work to be completed over the holiday.

It just remains for me to wish you a safe and healthy holiday.

With best wishes.

Julian Grant Headteacher

# Year 13 student head team

Mrs Valentine writes:-

Before I write to you with the exciting news of our new 2020/21 student head team, Mr Watson and I, along with the whole of the sixth form team, would like to pay a final tribute to our outstanding 2019/20 head team. Each member has written a short piece about their time of student leadership.

We wish our outgoing head team well in their future plans - which range from them studying Medicine, Economics, Criminology and History and Politics - we are proud of them, their achievements and how they have given to the school.



# Lily Kendrick - Head Girl

I've been honoured to be Sackville's head girl this year! I've really enjoyed everything the head team has been part of, notably the Children in Need Quiz, Remembrance Sunday and helping out with the school show. It's felt lovely to give a little back to the school that has taught me so much over the last 7 years. I will miss it lots now we're leaving!



#### Ayo Odeyinde - Head Boy

Being Head Boy at Sackville has exceeded my expectations of a role that I have always admired since I first started secondary school. From assisting at local primary schools to wider community engagements, this role has helped me to become a more active member of my community and I am very grateful for having the chance to do so. I have enjoyed being part of such a wonderful Head team; we are all very different people, but I believe that this is what has made us such an excellent team and all the work we have

done in our roles has helped to make our school an even better place. My personal highlight of being part of the head team has to be organising the charity quiz night, seeing people having so much fun whilst raising money for a good cause is definitely something that I will remember from my school life. The role has given me numerous skills, especially confidence in my public speaking and I hope to utilise this skill further in university and my later life. Once again, I would like to thank all the teachers and students who have trusted me in this position and to the amazing head team, Thank you.

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It has been an absolute pleasure to be the deputy head girl of Sackville. It has given me the chance to meet wonderful people. It saddens me that it has had to come to an end before it was supposed to, but I hold so many great memories. I am going to miss all of you and all Sackville has to offer!

I'm always available and happy to help even after they get a new deputy!

Be safe and best wishes.

# Will Booker - Deputy Head Boy



Being part of the head team has been such an amazing opportunity for me. I feel like I've been able to give something back to the school after being here for 7 years. Whether it was helping lead the Junior Leadership Team or speaking to potential students and their parents, being in this role for the last year has greatly increased my confidence and forced me to go outside my comfort zone, something that has undoubtedly made me more prepared for life post-Sackville. I've greatly enjoyed representing Sackville as part of this team, although I think the highlight for me was probably the Children in Need

charity quiz. I wish the next head team all the best and I hope they have as much fun as we did.

Thanks so much.

# Introducing our 2020/21 team. What do the groups do? What do they mean?

We are excited to start work with our new and talented sixth form leadership team. It will lead initiatives in key areas of the school. All members are the school's most senior student representatives for these roles. We have deployed these talented individuals across key areas of the school to work with students and senior staff leading initiatives.

**Student Learning:** Key roles - preparing agendas, leading and minuting **Junior Leadership Team (JLT)** meetings for students in years 7-13. This role includes taking part in lesson observations, chairing and coordinating student voice meetings and meeting prospective parents. These students will be expected to represent student views at the staff **Teaching and Learning group** meetings - these look at the latest research and ideas in education on how to help students' learn and achieve their potential. The student voice in this group will give feedback to staff, telling us what works and what doesn't'.



Sackville News, May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020, page 3

**Student Welfare leaders:** Key roles - transition support, present assemblies, mentoring for younger students during form time or in lesson support.

This group will have responsibilities based around the transition of students from year 6 into 7 and 11 into 12, as well as helping students who may move schools into other year groups at key times of their Sackville education. This group provides a network of students who can support all young people at Sackville who may have concerns about their mental well-being. Some of our students are trained as student mental health first aiders.



**Charity Initiative Leaders:** Key roles - initiate, lead and provide support at charity events. This includes promotion of these events through form groups and in assemblies.

This group will need to provide guidance and promote the many charity events that go on throughout the year across all year groups. Presenting at assemblies will be a key way of ensuring that students are aware of how they can support and donate for these events.



**Environment Initiative Leaders:** Key roles - create an environment support group from years 7 and 8 to help with project work. To undertake research from around school to seek out opportunities for sustainability and present these ideas to relevant staff.

HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT	HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT	ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER
SIN	*	
Kiera Ellis	Ben Kenward	Ella Douch

This group will need to highlight and develop opportunities of how the Sackville community can become more eco- friendly and more sustainable across all areas of school life. There will be key projects that will need to be planned for and to get involvement from younger groups to assist with.

The Head Girl and Head Boy will support Mr Grant and the Sixth Form staff at whole school events, as well as play an active role in the above groups.



# The lockdown does not stop Amber



We're all streaming *Spotify* now, to help us navigate lockdown. So why not have a listen to Amber Titchener's current Single, *Jigsaw*, and join the tens of thousands who already have?

*Spotify* has also set up a play list called *Amber T Radio* and she is now linked to other artists through the 'fans also like' feature.

This success on *Spotify* will go some way to compensate for the cancellation of a number of gigs Amber was due to

headline this summer.

Amber's sister Daisy has shot another video to promote the song, which you can see on <u>YouTube</u>. This has now had over 11000 views!

Amber also performed live this week over Facebook and IGTV.

With more music written ready for later in the year, the future looks very promising for this year 11 student!

# Stuck for food ideas over the 'holiday'?

This newsletter from the Community of Food Teachers shared by Mrs Smeaton is an interesting read.

#### Grilled Cheese from film, Chef

Sometimes the simplest meals are the greatest. In the film, we watch the main character make a grilled cheese sandwich for his son. If you watch this clip, you'll see how much care went into something so basic, and the incredible outcome from giving the food a little bit of attention! If you haven't watched this film 1 would highly recommend it to anyone that loves food.

#### Ingredients

- 2 bread slices
- salted butter
- olive oil
- A mix of grated cheeses or very finely sliced, such as gruyere, Parmesan, yellow or white cheddar.





Grate your cheeses in a small bowl, if you only have cheddar, it will still be great.

Take your bread slices and butter one side of each. You want the butter to cover the whole slice evenly.

Set a pan to medium heat. When it's hot enough, drizzle some olive oil on the pan.

Set both bread slices on the pan, buttered sides down. On the unbuttered sides, quickly place an even amount of grated cheese on each bread slices. Quickly turn the heat to low

Swirl the slices around the pan, placing a light pressure so the bottom sides receive an even, golden brown colour.

Once the cheeses are almost completely melted, place one slice on top of the other slice to assemble the sandwich. Continue to swirl the sandwich around the pan.

Shortly before taking it out, flip the sandwich on the other side, still swirling it around the pan.

Take out your grilled cheese and place it on a cutting board or on the plate. Slice your grilled cheese in half crosswise or diagonally. There should be a crunch when you cut into it.

vatch the short clip on youtube by searching.