

# Sackville News

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020



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Dear Parents and Carers

As we head towards half term, I **continue to be grateful for your support** in ensuring that our students are enjoying as normal experience as possible at school. As I walk around the school buildings I **am very impressed with the way the students are ready to learn**, and with the resilience they are showing in the face of everything this extraordinary year is throwing at them. I am, of course, equally impressed by **Sackville's marvellous staff** who are working so hard!



In any normal year, **Lauren Keetley (11PAS)** would be off to the **Horse of the Year Show** in Birmingham this week: she has qualified for the **National Newcomer Championship Final**. Over the last eighteen months she has trained her young pony from novice to one of the best 50 in his class in the country.

The event will be slightly different this year of course, but we wish Lauren all the best and look forward to hearing about future adventures and successes.

Lauren and all of our year 11s are focussed on the **first set of mock exams, which begin on November 9<sup>th</sup>**. Our students have just received a **shortened report** in place of the first parents' evening, which has advice from each teacher on how to maximise success in the forthcoming assessments.

One piece of advice worth sharing comes from a parent who says everyone should watch this [presentation from Elevate](#) on getting students organised for revision.

For our part, **Mrs Sands** and **Mr Millican** are holding **three virtual meetings** for parents of year 11 students on Monday and Tuesday next week to outline how we can best work together to support students through the next half term.

At Sackville, we consider year 11 to be so important that we schedule two face-to-face parents' evenings during the year. We are looking into a solution to allow a virtual parents' evening for the second of these in the spring term.

Virtual meetings and *Zoom* will be an abiding memory of 2020 for many of us. I am afraid we are going to have to add another to the diaries of year 11 parents: our **sixth form open evening** will be virtual this year. On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November from 3pm to 5pm our **subject leaders will be available over Zoom to introduce their A level and level 3 vocational courses** and answer questions. There will be eight sessions of ten minutes, starting every fifteen minutes from 3pm, so parents and students will be able to visit eight different subject areas. After the event, **recordings of one session from each subject area will be available**. Also available online will be a video about our sixth form starring the Head Team. The prospectus is already available from the 'Sixth Form' link on our website.



In school, we continue to respond to the current situation in novel ways. In **Mrs Hawken's beliefs and values lesson** on Wednesday the class were **using hymns to learn key religious teachings**. Now we are not encouraged to sing, what better way to join in than with phone torches?

We were also delighted this year to launch the

**extended project qualification** to our new year 12s. We would like to thank **Dr Rich Penny** from **Southampton University** for joining us in the hall – virtually of course! The qualification allows students to pursue a project in an area that is of interest to them, and results in a level 3 certificate that can help in entry to university. Recent projects have included research into the future of electric cars, treatments for multiple sclerosis and the financial viability of formula 1. Students can also **produce artefacts** such as a work of art or a computer program. We look forward to a good take up this year and a collection of very interesting and original student projects. In the afternoon year 12s were visited by **Adrian Curran** from **Cardiff University** who presented on what life is like at university, how the application process works, and how to choose a course and university.



We will produce the next newsletter just before half-term. In the meantime, please accept my best wishes for a safe and healthy weekend. In addition, I would like to extend best wishes on behalf of us all to Ms Garrison who commences her maternity leave today.

Julian Grant  
Headteacher

To ensure that we continue to support students when they are unwell we need to make sure our records are up-to-date. As a school we will continue to administer ad-hoc medication as per the consent slip you have completed. If you wish for this to change please contact the relevant year team. Should your child be diagnosed with any new medical condition please contact us. In addition, should your child's medical condition change (i.e. they no longer need to use their inhaler) please contact their year team.

We will continue to provide the support and medical assistance you have already agreed to unless we hear from you.

## Urban City dance masterclass with Gary Lloyd

This October, Urban City are honoured to be able to hold their first face-to-face masterclass with the exceptional @garylloydme. Gary has worked as Creative Director with some of the world's biggest artists on their live performances and arena tours, bringing his wealth of experience and innate creative vision to the theatrical stage.

As a Director and Choreographer, Gary's name is responsible for some of today's most successful West End shows such as Heathers, 20th Century Boy, The Tina Turner Experience, Joseph and Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and Jesus Christ Superstar... These shows are just some from the long list of credits that Gary has created.

Gary will be bringing choreography straight from his hit show Thriller Live to Urban City this October... If you would like the chance to be seen by Gary and learn from one of today's greats, email us at [info@urbancitydance.co.uk](mailto:info@urbancitydance.co.uk) to book your space.



Please can we encourage students and parents to check PE bags for any stray items of other students' kits? Stray socks can thus be happily reunited with the appropriate feet, and parents can save money as a result!



# East Grinstead Foodbank

We are once again collecting for the foodbank – all donations are welcome. Please bring them to Reception.



## COLLECTION POINT HERE

### SHOPPING LIST

- Tinned Ham
- Tinned Rice pudding
- Tinned Hot dogs
- Tinned Meatballs
- Fray Bentos Pies
- Tinned veg
- Tinned Sweetcorn
- Tinned Custard
- Tinned Potatoes
- Tinned Carrots
- Tinned Soup
- Spaghetti Hoops
- Baked Beans

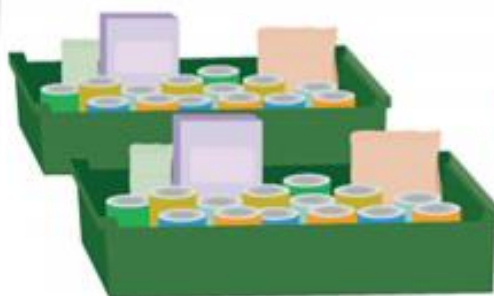
Only 'in-date' items please!

### DONATE NOW!

No pasta or rice thank you - we have plenty!

Please make sure your donation has not passed its best-before date.

Thank you for supporting the foodbank!



Don't forget you can help transform more lives with a financial donation too

### EAST GRINSTEAD FOODBANK

[admin@eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:admin@eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk)

Jubilee Community Centre,  
Charlwoods Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 2HL

This foodbank is run in partnership with local churches.  
Registered charity number 1154256 | Registered in England and Wales

