

Sackville News

3rd September 2019



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Dear Parents,

I hope everyone has had a good summer break as we now return refreshed to begin another school year. I would particularly like to **welcome warmly to Sackville our new year 7 students and their parents**; it is a real pleasure to have you with us. Welcome also to those **year 12** students and their parents joining us from other schools.

I regret to begin by having to share that **Andrew Smith**, age 13, lost his brave battle with cancer in August. We are all immensely saddened by this news. Sackville is a tightly knit community in which we support each other through both celebratory and the most challenging of times and this is undoubtedly one of the latter.



Andrew will be remembered for so many things, not least the dignity with which he faced his illness over the last year. No-one present will forget the charity basketball game he graced last November, and the huge cheers every time he sank a basket – which was every shot, for as usual he never missed. All of our staff count it as an honour to have worked with him in the short time he was at Sackville. So many of his peers are proud to have counted him as a friend.

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We have lost a young man of immense talent and promise, who grabbed every opportunity his brief life offered and wrung every last ounce from it. Andrew was a true example and inspiration to all of us, and our thoughts are with his family now. Andrew, you will be missed but never forgotten.

It is extremely hard to follow such news, but it is, of course, important to share all that has been taking place at Sackville over the summer.

Our **premises team** have, as ever, been very busy with various projects and in ensuring that the school is **well maintained**. Significant **painting work** has taken place and I am very grateful to the dedicated band of **students and ex-students** who have given their all to this end.



Our **Junior Leadership Team** have been requesting a **covered canopy area for outside eating** and we are very pleased to have had this installed by the English block. A separate **catering pod** will also be in operation soon to service this and reduce the queues in the canteen.



Another key project this summer has been a significant expansion of **solar panel installation** on our roofs. This important increase in renewable energy use is a positive environmental step forward for us.



Sackville School Sixth Form
enrolling from 16th August

See our website for details: www.sackville.w-sussex.sch.uk

'Come and share in our success' 2019 - 2020



Our sixth form team has been working very hard over the last couple of weeks to ensure that our **new year 12 students are carefully guided in their choices** and ready to make a **crisp start** at the beginning of term. Year 13 students are being supported with **university and apprenticeship applications**, including an **Oxbridge-focused group** which has been preparing hard for a while now.



Far beyond the shores of the UK, a group of sixth form students accompanied by **Mr Langford** and **Ms Jeffcoat**, travelled to **Malawi** on a **World Challenge** trip where they ascended **Mulanje Mountain**, worked at **Madziabango School** and undertook a safari at **Liwonde National Park**. The photographs are a small reflection of their incredible experience and Mr Langford was delighted to share the wonders of his home country with our students.



Back in the UK, parents may have been aware of Sackville's participation in the **CBBC young chef competition** called **'Step Up To The Plate'** which was **televised** over the summer.



The grand final was shown last Friday morning and our very own **Mac Lloyd-Skinner** won the **'Head Chef'** title which

was truly fantastic. Well done Mac!



Congratulations also to Sackville's **Joseph Boyle** who was a very worthy participant.

The anxious wait for **examination results** finally came to a close in August as students received their **A level, vocational** and **GCSE results** which, I must say, were exceptional!

At **A level, half of all grades were at B, A or A*** and over **90%** achieved the higher C+ grades in English, Maths and Geography, with 83% in History and in Physics. No fewer than **20 students achieved an A* or A grade in Maths** alone which is outstanding.



The students once again coped remarkably well with the new, more challenging exams and it is testament to their **staff** who prepared them thoroughly and to you, the **parents**, for your tireless support.



Top achievers include **Grace de Souza** who achieved a fantastic **4 A*** grades and a further **11 students** who achieved straight **A/A*s**: **Sam Akehurst, Imogen Booth, Mark Botha, Jenny Brockbank, Olivia Burton, Ellie Bush, Alice Holman, Casper Parsonage, Will Roberts Percy, Ben Sweetman** and **Marnie Trewern**. A further **7 students** achieved **2 A/A*s**: **Hollie Barden, Tatyana Koleva, Treya Lufu, Ollie Moon, Emily Phipps, Tom Taylor** and **Melissa Turner**.

Such strong results have led to great success in securing **apprenticeship, first choice university, medical** and **veterinary** school places.

A week later, year 11 students were receiving their **GCSE results**.

All of the GCSEs were on the new more demanding 9-1 scale this year and the **students rose magnificently** to the challenge. With highlights including **8 out of 10 students achieving strong GCSE passes in English and also in Maths** we can confidently claim that at Sackville **'Together we Achieve'**.



Not only were our own expectations exceeded; the students achieved **comfortably above government benchmarks**. Hard-working students of all abilities continue to make great



strides at Sackville. We could tell from the way these students approached their exams in the summer that we were in for some **strong results** and I would like to **congratulate the students once again** for the **tremendous work** they put in over the whole of last year. None of this would have been possible without the support of Sackville's amazing **staff** and you, the **parents**.

Whilst congratulating every student, I would like to mention in particular the following who achieved the top 'value added' performance:-

Leah Griffiths-Ellis, Maddie Wrigley, Ella Douche, Hanoch Nevin, Megan Stratford, Gracie Jervis, Amy Hawtin, Maisie Barnes, Carson Leung, Faye Birch, Emma Allen, Ursula Doyle, Will Grange and Caleb Neale.

I would also like to add a huge 'well done' to these top performers:-



Achieving a fantastic *straight 7+ in all of their subjects*:-

Ursula Doyle Amy Hawtin Freya Johns Megan Stratford
Luke Wadell

A further 3 students achieved *10 grades at 7+:-*

Harriet Allison Finn Crawford Ella Douch Will Grange
Gracie Jarvis Bailey Johnson

A further 8 students achieved *straight 6+ in all of their subjects*:-

Rosie Colcomb Megan Green Sam Kelly Skye Ure
Maddie Wrigley

A further 7 students achieved *10 grades at 6+:-*

Emma Allen Luke Davison Kiera Ellis Gracie Jervis
Lucy Kolter Holly Staples Tamar Symons

We are extremely grateful for, and indeed touched by, the many **very kind messages** that have been sent into the school thanking the staff for their hard work. Everything is a team effort and I am, yet again, reminded of what a **privilege** it is to be headteacher of your community.

"I just wanted to say thank you so much for your unwavering encouragement and support for (my daughter) over the past 7 years. It has been genuinely outstanding. I cannot speak highly enough of Sackville School. "

"As a family we would like to thank you for allowing (our son) the opportunity of studying in a school and community that truly has the interests of its pupils at its heart."

We are delighted to welcome a number of **new, excellent staff to the school this year**, several of whom are **additional** due to our **expanding role**.

In P.E., **Mr Watson** joins us from Blenheim High School in Epsom. In languages, **Ms Spearman** is returning from her training here last year to join our teaching staff, with the same scenario applying to **Ms Halford** in English, **Mr Shave** in Science and **Mrs Webb** in Maths. **Mr Batsford**, who is joining our Business Studies and Economics team, also trained with us and now joins Sackville after a year's teaching at Imberhorne School. We are also delighted to welcome **Mr Tate** (Science) who has just completed his PGCE year at Sussex University, **Ms Wicks** (Food Technology) joining us from The Littlehampton Academy and **Mr Angella** (English) who is arriving from Oxted School.

Within our current staffing I am pleased to announce that **Mrs Valentine** is our new **Head of 6th Form** and **Mr Watson** our new Deputy Head of 6th form. We have also created a new role of **Head of Vocational Education**, to which **Mrs Fleming** has been appointed. This reflects the increasing importance of this area of our curriculum in ensuring true breadth and quality.

Two of our students who have recently completed their A Levels are taking on posts with us this year: **Mr Hoelters** as Music Technician and **Miss Burton** as Food Technology Technician. It is wonderful to '**grow our own**' and I know they will be very successful in these roles. We are also pleased to welcome **Mr Covell** to the post of Performing Arts Technician, **Mrs Constable** to our team of Learning Support Assistants and **Mrs Bull** to our study supervisor team. In our main office, we welcome **Mrs Moore**

and **Mrs Clements** to secretarial roles and **Mrs Morales-Saunders** will be joining our modern foreign languages team as Spanish Language Assistant.

We will be bidding a fond farewell to **Mrs Tackley**, who works in our main office, in a fortnight's time. Mrs Tackley has given **tireless support and service to the school** for more than ten years and we will miss her a great deal as she moves on to enjoy her retirement years.

Our **pastoral structure for 2019-20** is as follows:-

Year Team Leadership

Oversight: Mr Street



Year Group	Year Assistant	Year Leader
7	Mrs Knock	Mrs Tingley
8	Mrs Farrant	Mr Thompson
9	Mrs Smith	Mr Endersby
10	Mrs Newcomb	Mrs Sands
11	Mr Jones	Mr Millican

Y7&8 offices in B block / Y9,10,11 offices in D block

Transition Coordinator:	Mrs Brown
Futures Leader:	Mrs Rooke
Sixth Form Leader:	Mrs Valentine
Sixth Form Deputy Leader:	Mr Watson
Sixth Form UCAS Coordinator:	Ms Bach
KS5 Student Support Manager:	Mrs Plumb
Sixth Form Intervention Leader:	Mrs Barden
Futures Leader:	Ms Rooke
Sixth Form SLT oversight:	Mr de Souza

Finally, following this article I am pleased to include an introduction from our **new Chair of Governors, Tim Humphrey**, as well as pieces from **Mr Street**, deputy headteacher, **concerning Open Evening** and **student expectations** for the coming year.

Wishing everyone a happy and productive 2019-20,

Julian Grant
Headteacher

Welcome from the Chair of Governors

Hello,

My name is Tim Humphrey and I am honoured to have been elected as Chair of Governors of Sackville. I am a local family man living in East Grinstead with three children at the school; my wife and I both work in Crawley.

Sackville is a wonderful establishment blessed with talent at all levels, from the earliest learner to the longest serving staff member. Being a Governor here is a great opportunity to be involved in achieving the best educational experience for all students, no matter what their individual starting point or anticipated destination.



Setting high expectations for the whole school community has produced amazing results and is testament to the strong direction from the senior leadership team. As governors, our job is to challenge the school to set a stretching vision for the future and ensure progress against it. Most of all, the development and success of every one of our students is our driving passion; the ultimate achievement is in turning out happy, self-aware and emotionally literate young adults, properly prepared and equipped for whatever future challenges lie ahead of them.

I can't wait to get stuck into the role and to be part of the success that is Sackville School!

Tim Humphrey

Open Evening

It is now less than three weeks until Sackville School's **Open Evening** which will take place on **Thursday 19th September 2019**.

This is an important evening for the school, enabling us to showcase the fantastic learning that takes place here and the great opportunities that we offer our students day in and day out.

We will be looking for large numbers of students to help us out on this evening, as they are our greatest asset. They can help out in subject areas, take part in **performances** or act as **guides**, which is an excellent **leadership opportunity**.

In order to prepare for the evening we will be closing early on **Thursday 19th September** with **students leaving school at 1pm that day**. The following day is our second INSET day of the academic year, **Friday 20th September**.

Please do mention the evening, or indeed the **open mornings** the following week, to any **year 5 and 6 parents** you may know! It is a great opportunity to see and feel what a special place Sackville really is.

Uniform / Mobile Phones – a message from Mr Street, Deputy Headteacher

I hope everyone has enjoyed the long summer break and managed to dodge the all too frequent rain showers.

It was great to see the new Year 7 arrive today with such enthusiasm and looking splendid in their new Sackville uniform. The new academic year is an important time to remind all students and parents about our uniform expectations and also the changes we have made to our mobile phone policy so everyone can start the term looking great and using their phones in an appropriate way.

School Uniform

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

Girls

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

Boys

Charcoal grey or black trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No light grey trousers • No excessively tight trousers
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 is acceptable. Any other piercings must 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. For girls, hair colour must be natural and dip dye is not acceptable.
- Make up by girls in year 9 or above must be discreet, particularly eye make-up.

Mobile Phones

As part of our ongoing review of standards and expectations we have updated our mobile phone policy for September 2019.

We recognise that mobile phones, cameras and other digital devices are now an integral part of our culture and can be of considerable value to aid learning and for personal safety. However, balanced with this are the need to focus on learning and to safeguard students and staff from cyber bullying, inappropriate use of the Internet and telecommunications, and the misuse of social media such as Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram.

After thorough consultation with all stakeholders (students, parents and staff) the school is taking a modified, measured approach to mobile phones. Mobile phones will not be permitted for use during lesson changeovers and whilst in lessons or registration without the teacher's permission. They can be used responsibly at social times, break and lunch. Although phone use is permitted at these times, students who bring their phones to school do so at their own risk. The school has no insurance in place for mobile phone loss, damage or theft.

This approach allows students to possess a mobile phone during the day and ensures their personal safety to and from school. Students will be expected to use their mobiles responsibly during social times and will be educated about how best to do this through our comprehensive Learning for Life programme. It also allows them to be used as an educational tool / organiser when permitted by staff whilst also avoiding unnecessary distractions to learning at other times.

In order to ensure that mobile phones do not disrupt learning, any students using their technological devices in the corridor during lesson change over or in a lesson/registration time when not permitted will receive a mobile phone point. This will be logged on our information system, SIMS.

Three or more points in a week will result in that student receiving a phone ban in school for the following week. Parents/carers will be contacted by the relevant year team and in consultation with them one of the following will be apply for that whole week:

1. The phone is confiscated by the parents during school hours (i.e. it is left safely at home);
2. The mobile phone is brought into school and handed into the year office for safe keeping at the beginning of each day and then collected at the end of the school day.

We are asking parents to support the school in educating students with regard to appropriate and responsible mobile phone use by avoiding contact via mobile phone with your child during the school day. Should you need to contact your child then please do through our reception or the relevant year office, where staff are always happy to assist in any way they can.

As always, I thank you for supporting us in ensuring that all Sackville students are really proud of their appearance and also using their mobile phones and other technological devices appropriately.

Toucan Crossing

After a summer of temporary traffic lights, the new toucan crossing in front of the school on Lewes Road is ready to go. We have supported West Sussex County Council in constructing this as it will make safer the journeys of students to school. However we would encourage students and parents to remember that **the safest way to cross the A22 is via the subway.**

Our new year 7s and 12s arrive ...



Mr Street welcomes the near year 7s this morning.



Mr Grant welcomes the new year 12s and congratulates them on their excellent GCSE results. There was a special welcome for all the students new to the school.

Anyone got a piano or any other musical instruments to spare?

Mr Heatley writes:-

Over the summer our wonderful student decorators and premises team have installed a brand new **practice room** within the music block and we are looking to furnish it with instruments for the students to play. If you have any instruments at home which are lying around unused and you would like to donate them to a happy home then please do consider the Sackville music department.

We are very grateful for donations received in the past the students are making great use of them. Currently, we are particularly looking for a piano that is in good condition for our new practice room but we are extremely grateful to receive other instruments and equipment too. We can arrange collection at a time suitable for you. If you would like to get in touch, please contact me via email on theatley@sackvilledschool.org.uk

Many thanks

Piano lessons

If anyone is interested in **piano/keyboard lessons** with Mrs Robinson, who taught music at Sackville for a number of years, she comes in on Mondays and has a few vacant slots.

Please give her a call on 01825 733491

Rotary East Grinstead Meridian

Fit For Life Showcase 2019

Come to the Show and meet the Experts
Saturday, 28 September 10am to 3pm
Sackville School, Lewes Road, East Grinstead

40 Health and Wellbeing Stalls ■ Health Checks
■ Live Demonstrations
Supported by town surgeries

FREE ENTRY FOR ALL www.meridianrotary.co.uk

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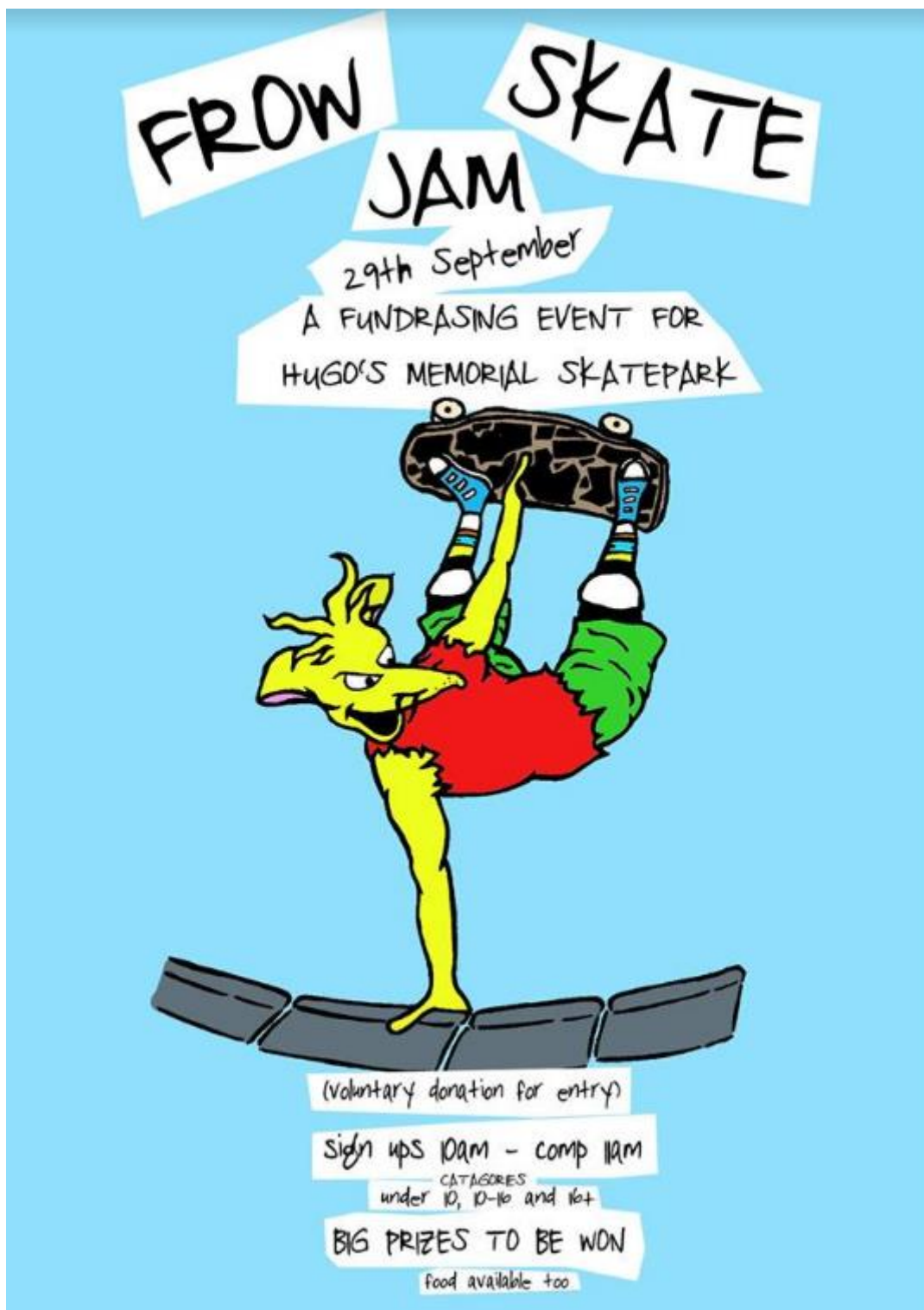
TOGETHER WE ADVANCE

Facebook Twitter

Calling all skateboarders ...

Come and join the fundraiser at **Forest Row Skatepark** to raise money for the Hugo Palmer Memorial facility. There are also events for **scooter** and **BMX** riders.

More details are [here](#)





Forestry England

Get active at **Bedgebury**

Free taster day Saturday 28 September

- Buggy Fitness
- Cycle skills - adults & children
- Forest School for adults
- Family orienteering
- Geocaching
- Go Ape zip wire challenge
- Nordic Walking
- parkrun
- Pilates with Primal Roots
- Running Groups
- Walking trails
- Yoga

For more information on taster sessions visit our website. To secure your free place call: 01580 879820.

bedgebury@
forestryengland.uk

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forestryengland.uk/bedgebury