

### Families' Bulletin

### Week commencing Monday 28 February 2022

### **HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE**

Although the half term may have come to a slightly adjusted end due to the Met Office severe weather warning forcing us to move to online learning today, it has been a very successful and bumper packer half term. Please see our latest edition of Sackville news to read about all of the fantastic things that have gone on in just a few relatively short weeks.

Of course, the biggest highlight of this week was our school show We Will Rock You. With over 130 students and 30 staff this was a huge Sackville team effort and the result was simply AMAZING. Our school is full of talented people, students and staff alike and this is a major highlight of the school calendar where you can see that in abundance. Whether on, off or under the stage; supporting in lighting, sound or choreography, playing in the band or taking a leading role, this was a mammoth team effort that was a resounding success. Despite having to limit the audience, our new live streaming equipment meant more people could join us online, we even have grandparents scheduled to watch tonight's finale all the way from Texas, USA. A full review and photographs can be seen in the Sackville News but I would like to give special thanks here to Show Director, Holly Whitmore for her superb work in bringing everything and everyone together, through some particularly challenging times.

I wish you all a happy, safe and relaxing half term break.

Jo Meloni

### **School Notices**

### **Parent Governor**

We are pleased to announce that Anna Kilpatrick has been re-elected as a parent governor. Our grateful thanks goes to Anna and Scott Carson for supporting the school by standing for election.

### Get into teaching – event at Imberhorne School, Wednesday March 16

Ever fancied being in the classroom? A change to the most rewarding career in the world could be yours.

Come to the open morning at Imberhorne Upper School at 8.50 on Wednesday March 16 and enjoy a typical morning in a secondary school. Our own Steve Bush will be there presenting.



### **Year Notices**

### Free Invicta Academy virtual lessons over half term

West Sussex County Council have teamed up with Invicta National Academy to offer free lessons over half term. Here's what Invicta say:

We are delighted to announce that Invicta National Academy has joined forces with West Sussex County Council to bring you our **FREE** holiday programmes this February half-term!

We are an award-winning Community Interest Company that was set up to help children catch up on learning lost due to the pandemic. We offer **FREE** live, virtual classes for all children, from Key Stage 1 – Key Stage 4, during school holidays. All classes are taught by our excellent and fully qualified teachers alongside a trained teaching facilitator.

Our half-term course will run from 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> February with maths (10am-10.50am) and English (11am-11.50am) lessons every morning and an exciting daily Taekwondo class (9.15am-9.45am) to start the day off right! We must emphasise that this is all entirely free, there is no payment required at any stage.

All you need to do to sign up is click on this link: <a href="https://www.invictaacademy.com/westsussexhalfterm">www.invictaacademy.com/westsussexhalfterm</a> and book your classes. We will then send you a Zoom link for each of your lessons. It's as simple as that! Every class is standalone so you can do all of them or just one, it's entirely up to you.

Our previous courses have been hugely popular and the stats speak for themselves. A report after our 5 week summer 2021 course found that the children evidenced an overall mean improvement of 6.5% across all key stages in both English and maths. That's quite an impact!

We think you will agree that this is an exciting addition for West Sussex and will be of huge benefit to your children.



### FREE, LIVE, ONLINE MATHS & ENGLISH LESSONS JUST FOR YOU THIS HALF TERM!

Plus free daily Taekwondo classes to get your brain ready for learning.

Sign up at:
https://www.invictaacademy.com/westsussexhalfterm
or scan this code:



Help your child catch up on lost learning.

More information on what we do can be found at: <a href="www.invictaacademy.com">www.invictaacademy.com</a> or you are welcome to email any questions direct to: <a href="admin@invictaacademy.com">admin@invictaacademy.com</a>

### Year 11

### Mocks 2 – a message from Mr Millican

I hope you are all staying safe on a very blustery day. I have emailed students directly wishing them a rest full and productive week off. There is definitely a balance to be had here. It has been an incredibly long half term for them, but they have kept the hammer down all the way.

Here is a <u>link to a presentation</u> about the logistics for the **mock exams when we return**. You will notice it is very similar to that of the first set. The only main change is that we do not have a formal grades afternoon. With roughly seven teaching weeks until the start of the GCSEs, once the mock exams are marked we encourage staff to provide feedback as swiftly as possible. This will enable students to tailor their final weeks of revision.

As usual that you very much for all your support. If you do have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact.

### Year 8

### **Year 8 options**

Mr Street gave an assembly to year 8 this week outlining the options process. Details of all of the courses available next year are in our prospectus, alongside key dates in the options process.

We look forward to welcoming you to the options fair on Thursday March 3.

### **Key Dates**

Monday February 28 - Year 11 Mocks 2

Friday March 11 Tuesday March 1

Fun photos years 7 and 10

Year 8 options morning

Wednesday March 2

Fun photos years 8 and 9

Thursday March 3

Year 8 options evening, 4.30-6.30 pm

Friday March 4

Year 12 UCAS Fair in Brighton

Saturday March 5

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh training weekend

Monday March 7 Wednesday March 9 Deadline for year 8 options forms
Observatory open evening

Wednesday March 16

Year 8 trip to Neasden Temple and Southall Gurdwara (B&V)

Thursday March 17

Year 12 politics trip to nuclear bunker

Year 9 parents' evening

Friday March 18 Tuesday March 22 Wednesday March 23 Year 11 Shakespeare workshops Year 13 politics revision trip Year 12 visit to St John's College Year 13 sociology revision trip

Thursday March 24

Year 13 travel trip to Harry Potter World Whole school Learning for Life sessions

Sixth form HE Fair, 4.30 - 6.30 pm

Year 13 study leave Year 13 study leave

Friday March 25

Years 9, 10 (BV) and 11 grade sheets issued

Saturday March 26 -

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition

Sunday March 27

Monday March 28

Year 13 Mock 2 exams (till Friday)

Wednesday 30 March Thursday 31 March Wednesday 6 April Primary Dance Festival Year 11 parents' evening

Wednesday 6 April Thursday 7 April

Gym and Dance Display
Mims Davies MP talking to year 12

Friday April 8

End of term, 2.35 pm

### Wellbeing Weekly

### The Teenage Brain

During adolescence our brains and bodies shift from that of children and begin the process of becoming adults. The necessary change takes years and recent research has shown that nowadays it is taking longer. Some scientists have found that for some our brains are still adjusting into our early twenties. It is then that the relative neuro stability of adulthood can begin.

Adolescence and the teenage years can be a challenging time for parents and children alike. Please find a <u>short video here</u> to help explain what is happening. If you are interested in

13-19

this area you may wish to read the following books: Blame My Brain, Brainstorm and The Teenage Brain.

### Protect, mark and park your car safely





Thieves are targeting valuable metals under your car and can remove catalytic converters in less than a minute.

# PROTECT • MARK • PARK

Catalytic converters are devices fitted to vehicle exhausts to reduce the amount of dangerous gases emitted.

## Look out for the following signs that may indicate a catalytic converter theft is being committed.

- A vehicle has been raised using a car jack in a car park or residential area.
- There is a loud drilling or cutting sound coming from underneath the vehicle.

Catalytic converter theft most frequently occurs in car parks, but they can happen anywhere.

## Reduce the risk of catalytic converter theft by following the below guidance.

- Put your car in a garage wherever possible.
  - Park your car in well-lit areas.
- Look out for people working under cars.
- Try to park so the convertor can't be easily reached
  - close to a wall or fence.
- Consider using an approved 'cat' alarm and/or 'cat' guard
  - speak to your car dealer for advice.
    Consider marking the metal shell of the converter with a unique mark, making the stolen part easier to trace back

For more information visit sussex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/catalytic-converter-theft



If you see anything suspicious or believe you have been victim to this theft, report online at www.sussex.police.uk or call 101 and quote 'Operation Rhodium'.

In an emergency always call 999.

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