

The recent tragic events in Paris have, I am sure, shaken us all. It reinforces the importance of our school's ethos and values and how we should never take them for granted. It is a challenging world and I have no doubt that East Grinstead students will be positively influential in its future. As educators, we have a key role to play alongside parents in supporting them.



This month we remembered the fallen at the town's Remembrance Parade. I was privileged to accompany our Head Girl and Head Boy, Nicole de Barra and Michael Turnbull, in laying a wreath at the memorial on the High Street with a large number of local residents in attendance. Such community events are important and

we are looking forward to participating in the town tree lighting ceremony as well as to holding our carol service at St Swithun's. All such occasions require careful preparation and this is on top of our special winter concert held at the school. It is great to see so many students contributing in a variety of ways. Their development as caring citizens sits up alongside the importance of being well qualified for the world beyond.

Our sense of togetherness has also been reflected in parental survey findings. It was fantastic to see, for example, that all of our y11 (GCSE) parents would recommend Sackville to others! We have also just welcomed parents of children in the first year of the school to join the tutors in catching up on early progress. The turnout was excellent and reflected the vibrant nature of our home-school partnership. These relationships are crucial; no school can rest on its laurels and listening to the views of our stakeholders enriches all that we do.

Our sixth form open evening has occurred recently and we are delighted by the popularity of the provision we offer; we have a thriving cohort of over 400 students. The Department for Education has recently confirmed that, once again, in 2015 Sackville students' progress at both AS and A level was significantly above the national average and this sits alongside our very high-ranking GCSE results.



our sixth formers. The governors narrowly beat the senior leadership team....

Our community was also drawn together on Children in Need day when over £2000 was raised, including a fantastic cake sale and staff-student dodgeball! Over £600 was also raised in the annual evening quiz organised extremely well by



There are many occasions when a headteacher feels particularly proud. Well done to Joe Roberts Percy on gaining an Arkwright Engineering Scholarship, which is a tremendous accolade. Joe had to complete with over 1600 students to secure one of the prestigious 400 places awarded this year.

We have also celebrated by presenting certificates to our many y10 students who have gained language GCSE qualifications two years early. Well done to all of them!



Sporting endeavours are always of great interest to any school and we were thrilled

when our U13 girls' football team recently won the Ardingly School Girls' Football Tournament, scoring 22 goals and conceding only 1! Meanwhile, Sackville's year 7 boys' football team continues an amazing start to the season, winning their tenth match on the trot last week.



Our environment is always a priority and the installation of solar panels at Sackville earlier this term was very welcome as we anticipate them reducing our bills and saving some 14000 kg of CO2 per year: an important, positive step.

Finally, our Y11 students now await their GCSE Pre-Public (mock) examinations, the outcomes of which will guide them helpfully in 2016. I wish them, and all students in the town facing such exams, every success.

Best wishes

Julian Grant