

The summer term has begun at a strong pace and, first and foremost, I would like to wish all year 11 and sixth form students in East Grinstead the best of luck as the **exam season begins**. I would also like to wish their parents all the best as it is undoubtedly a team effort! The teaching and support staff at Sackville have dedicated themselves to preparing the students as thoroughly as possible, including a full range of Easter holiday GCSE revision classes which were well attended. As headteacher, I cannot ask for more.

Election fever is in the air and at Sackville we have just elected our new Head Girl, Head Boy and Deputies for 2017-18. Our new Head Girl will be **Charlie Main** and new Head Boy **Tom Dean**, with **Chloe Maraner** and **Chris Oglethorpe** as Deputies. I know that these excellent students will continue the fine work of their predecessors in providing great leadership to the school's student body. We are also currently establishing a range of **leadership roles for our year 10 students** as they move into year 11. I do believe it is essential that young people have these opportunities to develop their confidence and serve their community well.



I am very pleased that, for the second year running, Sackville has been awarded '**Leading Edge Status**' by the national education body, the SSAT. The award reflects strong teaching quality and results and it is a real honour to receive it again. We will therefore be continuing with great enthusiasm our professional development work both within the school and beyond, all of which will benefit our students in their learning experience.

Our year 10 students have been actively enjoying trips within this country and abroad over the last month or so. Our year 10 **World Challenge group travelled to Sri Lanka** at Easter. On arrival, after a night on a beach-front hotel, the group moved on to their project near Kandy where they were based in a local school. There they assisted in some site maintenance, moving several tonnes of stones and bricks, and also worked in the classrooms teaching English to the students. They were given a fantastic send-off when leaving the school, with a show including a fire-eater. They were also presented with an enormous hamper of local produce. What a wonderful experience for all!



On the sporting front, we are very proud that our boys' **U13 cricket team has been crowned Sussex indoor champions 2017**. A large number of schools across Sussex entered, so many congratulations to Joe Sheridan (captain), Caspar Arthur, Olly Ally, Luke Peel, Jake Lingard and Liam Dawes and of course, Mr Watson and Mr Currie! This week, we enjoyed a celebration in my office to mark the event.

Sport can indeed be a power for good in many ways and no more so was this seen than in the **memorial football match** held at Sackville this month in memory of **Musa Mevlit** who sadly passed away just before the Easter break. Mr Mevlit was a very popular figure in our community, best known for selling ice creams in



Bourg-de-Peage Avenue with such a friendly smile day in, day out. Our thoughts are with his family at this time and it was good to see such a strong turnout of support at the match, together with a great sum of money raised.

Julian Grant