

Sackville News

October 4 2013



Headteacher's message

We have now been back at school for a month and I am delighted to say that the students are still working hard and being as courteous as ever.

This has perhaps best been reflected in the marvellous way in which so many of them have acted as guides to our visitors during the very busy Open Evening and Open Mornings. The following message is one of many which we have received:-

Dear Mr Grant

We visited your school for the open evening last Thursday and again Monday morning. I wanted to email you to express how impressed myself and my son were with everything we saw and everyone we met.

Your passion for the school and commitment to the pupils was clearly evident during your presentation, and this was reflected by all the teachers we met on both visits. There was so much energy and excitement when the teachers talked about the work pupils had / were producing, the quality of which (particularly in the arts, music and drama departments) was outstanding.

The 2 pupils who showed us around (Lewis and a young lady) were an absolute credit to the school. They were polite, articulate and enthusiastic about their learning. Please can you pass on our thanks to them, and all the other pupils involved, for making it such an informative and exciting morning.

I attended Sackville between 1986 - 1993 and I cannot get over how the facilities have been modernised, the building felt light and a great place to learn, and the extent of curriculum on offer plus extra curricula activities was amazing.

Thank you so much for inviting us to the school, I am really excited about my son being part of its future.

Kind regards

Denise Lancaster

Staff are working hard preparing high quality lessons for our students and our fruitful Inset day on Friday 27th September helped us with this focus. We have also been carefully reflecting on and analysing our successful exam results; this process is contributing to the finalisation of our improvement plans for this year.



I have now held my first 'Headteacher's Surgery' and hope that parents found the opportunity to come along and meet me on an informal basis helpful. Thank you once again for the support and welcome I have received from the Sackville community – it has been much appreciated!

Best wishes.
Julian Grant

Sports News – More Successes for Sackville

U14 Netball

On Monday 23rd September the U14 netball squad attended the West Sussex Netball Versatility Tournament at Imberhorne School.

The tournament got underway at 4.30pm and started with the girls having to choose their bibs out of a bag so it was luck of the draw for positions. All our team started the game out of the position and were immediately nervous about the first game against Downlands. But in true Sackville style the girls rose to the challenge and scored two goals very quickly. Downlands then came back scoring two goals to make it 2-2, but our girls battled hard and managed to win the game 5-2.

After rotating positions our next game was against Warden Park and this game proved to be a tougher match. Warden Park quickly took the lead and we were immediately on the back foot, but determination from our girls saw us score two quick goals to make it 2-1. It was a tense match but we soon scored again with 2 minutes to go, a late goal from Warden Park but then the final whistle came with the final score being 3-2 to us.

Another rotation of position and our next match was against Tanbridge House. This match saw some of the girls in their normal positions and they worked extremely hard, with some great interceptions by Cara Turnbull and great centre court play from Charlie Main. Great defensive play from Vicki Pellet meant a clean sheet for us and also 4 goals scored for us to win 4-0.

Our next game was against Oakmeads. This game was a much closer match with the score being 2-1, but excellent movement and defensive play from Daisy Stahl made sure that we kept the upper hand and more importantly the win.

The next match was our toughest of the whole tournament – Farlington, the eventual tournament winners. The girls were a little out of position throughout this match and even with all their effort Farlington were too strong for us. Amy Collins put lots of pressure on the shooters and made some great interceptions in the D, but the final score was 5-2 to Farlington.

In true Sackville spirit the girls went into the next game against Imberhorne very positive and played exceptionally well. Excellent shooting from Beth Keen and Josie Cooper saw us win 7-0.

Our Final Match was against Oathall. The girls were on a high after their 7-0 victory and keen to do well in their final match. The game was a very closely fought competition and Olivia Steer did really well in the centre of the court and made some great passes and interceptions. Oathall scored first but our girls battled well to get the equaliser and soon came the final whistle with the score being 1-1.

The tournament results were announced and as we waited eagerly to find our positions we were ecstatic to find out we had come second. An excellent result in a versatility tournament and a fantastic way to start the season. Well Done Girls.

Team: Cara Turnbull, Olivia Steer, Daisy Stahl, Josie Cooper, Amy Collins, Vicki Pellett, Charlie Main, Beth Keen.

Player of The Tournament was Cara Turnbull



U15 Netball Team Kick off the Season with an Impressive Victory

On Thursday 19th September Sackville travelled to Tanbridge House in Horsham for their first tournament of the year. Aware that as part of their GCSE PE assessment they would have to be proficient in all playing positions, the squad decided to vary where they played, all of them playing less familiar positions.

In the first game against the hosts, Tanbridge House, Sackville settled well and took an early lead. They went on to win convincingly with a score of 10-2.

The next game was against Oakmeads. Sackville had been defeated by them only the day before. Sackville were eager to overturn that outcome this time. They went out hard and had the vast majority of possession, transferring the ball effortlessly across the court and converting most of their shots. Sackville won 4-3.

Downlands were Sackville's next opponent. Sackville again rotated positions, Saskia Harris moving into the GK role and Lia Raymond into C. This formation proved to be better than the previous as Sackville completely dominated the game, Downlands hardly gaining possession. Sackville won 7-0.

Sackville's final opposition was Warden Park, who are known to be a very strong netball team. At the start the teams were fairly evenly matched, but Sackville soon began to pull ahead and took the lead. The match finished 6-2.

Sackville finished the Tournament undefeated. A great start to the season, well done girls!

The squad were: Lia Raymond, Saskia Harris, Esme Foreman, Daisy Fish, Emma Lloyd, Ellie Debenidictis and Amy Sands. Saskia Harris was voted player of the match after an outstanding debut at Goal Keeper.

Mixed Fortunes for Senior Football Teams

The new football season began promisingly for the first and second elevens. An early season visit to Lingfield Notre Dame yielding two fine victories. The first 11 won 2-0, with goals from Harry Lynn and Sam Broomfield. The score did not really reflect the way in which Sackville dominated the game. Meanwhile on the adjacent pitch it took an audacious chip from George Johnson to separate the two second 11s. The goal was more like something you would see on *Fifa 13*; so was the celebration.

Sadly, any thought that this might prove to be the springboard to a successful cup run was thwarted as the firsts lost 0-6 to Shoreham Academy in the first round of the county cup. This Thursday sees the annual Adam Dabell memorial game against Imberhorne. Let's hope the early form can be replicated!

An Appeal from Girls' PE.

I am writing to appeal – shamelessly - for some spare kit for our students. As I'm sure you're aware, occasionally students forget their kit. (Yes, despite their best organisational efforts this does happen!) For members of staff in PE, it's very frustrating when we don't have the right sized trainers to lend when the problem arises.

As staff in Girls' PE, we donate our own second hand trainers to the "spare kit cause"; this means we have lots of size 4, 5 and 6 but very little at either end of the size spectrum! So if you have any old trainers lying about at home in size 1,2,3,7,8 or 9 that still have grip, support and are in useable condition we'd be most appreciative of a donation!

If you do have any pairs could you send them in with a willing student or drop them into reception.

Many thanks in advance!

Miss C Jones

Year 9 Health and Social BTEC group visit Chailey Heritage

We hope you will take the time to look at some of our photos of the amazing facilities Chailey Heritage offers.

As part of our Health and Social Care vocational course, our group enjoyed a morning at Chailey Heritage. Chailey Heritage is a school for severely disabled children and young people. We were amazed and impressed at the facilities the school offers. It was a real eye opener to us to see how the teachers there have worked hard to provide the pupils with the wonderful opportunities. We realised that the young people enjoyed the same leisure activities as we do, but only it needs a lot more skilled organisation and resourcing. We saw all the equipment and technology needed to run a class there. There were talking computers for pupils who could not speak, tracks around the building for motorised wheel chairs and a swimming pool complex, complete with water slides. It looked really fun.



We visited the Life Skills Centre which has amongst other things, a Spa and Pamper Room, a pottery and art centre and a kitchen fully equipped for disabled use. The students there were determined not to let their disabilities stop them living life to the full.

As a token of our appreciation for the visit, we will be organising a fund raising event shortly for Chailey Heritage and we hope you will support us in this.

Thank you to Mrs Rowlingson and to Mrs Valentine for organising and taking us on the visit. We appreciated it and gained a lot from it.

Year 9 BTEC Health and Social Care.



Besuch aus Hamburg - Kaffee und Kuchen mit 9K German

On Monday 23rd September, 9K2 German group were delighted to entertain a group of German students from our partner school in Hamburg, The students, although considerably older than us (17-21 yrs), really liked our cakes and were impressed by our German.

Mr Whitehead and Mrs Valentine host this group every year, as well as take a group of year 12 students to Hamburg every year. Our students visiting Hamburg have the opportunity to visit Airbus factory, Holsten brewery and spend time in the cities of Berlin and Hamburg.



Mrs Valentine and Mrs Dickson helped us cook and prepare a coffee morning, whilst Mr Whitehead organised a series of events around the school. This included tours of Sackville, lesson observations and a tour of Estcots Primary School.

Our class made biscuits, cakes and tea and coffee. Devon Frost, Toby Smith, Will Putner and Hayden Edson excelled in the kitchen. In addition to this, we prepared a welcome speech in German. Laura van der Heijden (A level German student) introduced us and then we spoke in German. We were really proud of our efforts as we had to speak in German in front of a lot of German people, as well as our own teachers. Matthew Wise, Tom O'Rawe, Devon Frost, Ollie Dettmar Hallet, Jaiden Wells and Joey Leslie all spoke confidently and clearly.

We would like to thank Mr Whitehead and Mrs Valentine and all the other staff involved for their efforts and for trusting us to entertain the visitors and cook for them! The Germans said they really liked seeing us at our school. We hope you enjoy looking at the photos.

9K German



I love Sackville. I think it brings out the best in me. The facilities are great and the lessons are fun and interesting. Everyone is happy to help if you get lost and for the first week, the buddies are there to escort you to your lessons. I have really enjoyed Sackville so far and have made lots of new friends, although I have only been there for three weeks. I really look forward to what comes in the future.

Lea Wellbelove, year 7

Future Olympians?



Kiera wearing her Academy kit

Kiera Henderson

Archery GB has offered a place to Kiera Henderson in year 8 on the Archery GB Regional Performance Academy Programme. This offer represents a fantastic achievement for Kiera, who has been asked over a period of 18 months to engage in a rigorous selection process and training programme. From thousands of junior members the programme was open to, ArcheryGB selected only sixty athletes for this programme across England.

The Programme is intensive and its purpose is to prepare each athlete for their journey to become an Olympic medallist. The next stage in Kiera's journey is entry into the World Class Performance Programme and competition for these places is tough and the performances required for selections are challenging.

The programme involves one residential training camp each month (Friday 5pm through to Sunday 4pm) and regular meetings with squad coaches between camps. Kiera attended her first camp 2 weekends ago, and enjoyed every minute of it!

Report by Mrs Mangan

Thomas Taylor -

Meanwhile Thomas Taylor in year 9 has been out of action since his broken leg, but two weekends ago he returned to competition at the Welsh Open in Cardiff. He managed to archive a bronze medal position in sparring, not a bad achievement having been out of training for two months.

He was also presented with a trophy, UKTA Overall Junior Black Belt Champion by the President of the United Kingdom Taekwondo Association for his achievements in Scotland earlier this year.



Sackville is a very welcoming school, the teachers are very kind and all the students make you feel welcome! The lessons at Sackville are also very fun; all the teachers are very enthusiastic. Being a year 7 is a big change from primary school for instance you're not in the same classroom every lesson, and there is more homework.

I have made lots of friends not just from my form! I went to Turners Hill Primary school which is very small; it only has 135 pupils compared to Sackville's 1500! It has been a very joyous time at Sackville so far and I hope it stays that way all the way through my time at Sackville.

Ethan Carrick, year 7

News of Former Students



JJ Grey

JJ Grey has been selected for the England Men's golf squad for 2013-2014. This is an achievement he has been aspiring to for many years. He is now ranked 62 in the world and is 36 in the USA. He is studying at Georgia State University where he has been awarded Golf Scholarship.

He had 3 championship wins last year which has helped him achieve his dream. He received All American Honourable mention for being in the top 40 college students in the USA, and an award from PING for his outstanding achievements in golf for the year 2013.

Charlotte Blackledge

Meanwhile as mentioned in the last edition of Sackville News, Charlotte Blackledge made her West End Debut last month as Mandy Rice-Davies in Andrew Lloyd Webber's new musical about the Profumo scandal. Anyone who remembers her in Sackville's amazing 2009 performance of *Grease* will not be in the least surprised. But then I would say that, wouldn't I?

Charlotte is pictured on the left here, alongside actress Charlotte Spencer as Christine Keeler (picture courtesy of the Daily Mail website).



Class of 2013 Start at University; Class of 14 Aspire!

Over the last fortnight, many Sackville families have said goodbye to sons and daughters as they make their way to university. This year saw a record number of students achieve the university of their choice, with three students going to medical school and two to Oxford. In order to ensure that this success continues, Ms Bach continues to arrange 'master classes' with admissions tutors from the top universities. Last month over a dozen hopeful year 12 students were lucky enough to meet Dr Sam Lucy, Admissions Tutor and Financial Tutor from Newnham College, Cambridge. Dr Lucy explained what life was like studying at Cambridge and gave advice on how to make an impressive application. Also that morning, Helen Hall from Oxford University was giving our three Oxford applicants more detailed advice on their applications for 2014.

Election of Teaching Staff Governor

I am pleased to announce that Mr Phil Andrews has recently been re-appointed as Teaching Staff Governor.

In his supporting statement Mr Andrews said:

'For the past twelve years I have been a critical friend as teacher governor. During this period of office, I have chaired the Curriculum committee and have the privilege of seeing how a governing body works and the importance of seeing the "bigger picture". I believe it is imperative that we as teachers have representation in this process.'

Mrs Helen Rodgers
Clerk to the Governors

That's the end of the news for this edition. A busy few weeks ahead, not least with the auditions for the new school show. Good luck to everyone who is trying!

Music Department Extra Curriculum

Week commencing Monday 16th

Band Night

Every Monday 3.00pm-4.00pm Music Block.
Rooms and instruments available at break times and after School

Samba

All years welcome, especially those who play drums.
Monday E06 3.00pm-3.45pm

Little Big Band

Tuesday 3.00-4.00 in E06 with Mr Heatley
Open to all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 who play an instrument

Orchestra

Wednesday 3.00pm-4.00pm in E06 with Mr Nicholson
All instrumentalists Grade 3 and above.

Choir

Wednesday 8.20 am-8.50am in E03 with Ms Nixon and Mrs Hall
all Singers year 7 to 10

Big Band

Thursday 3.00pm-4.15pm in E06 with Mr Nicholson
Open to all wind instruments - drummers, guitarists, bassists and keyboard
players by audition

Music ICT Club on the *MACS*

Friday Lunchtime E05
Further details available in the Music Office

Meet The Professionals Evening

Thursday 10th October 2013

**6.30pm – 8.30pm in the Main
Hall**

**Come along and learn about a whole host of different
jobs and careers.**

**Speak to professionals currently employed in the industry
and find out how they got started.**

**The evening is open to everyone in all year groups from
years 7 to 13**

Don't miss out; make sure you're there!

Mr Heatley



DON'T JUST WATCH IT, LIVE IT!

Singing and dancing are two of the greatest art forms, yet so often we choose to live the stage experience through others on TV. Admittedly, everyone has a reality show guilty pleasure and that is not wrong, it's great, but is the experience not better lived than watched?

Having the confidence to try new things seems so hard at times and thoughts of failure often destroy ambition before the first attempt is made. Out to buck this trend is Sarah Benton, a local singing coach, who has recently launched 'Step Up and Sing'.



Step Up and Sing is a contemporary dance and singing academy that helps performers of all ages explore and develop their talents in a setting that's full of laughs and fun. Step Up and Sing is a young, fresh take on the traditional stage school and aims to teach and develop talented youngsters in the confidence needed to own the stage and win in life.

The academy runs for 10 weeks during term time for all ages and focuses on both the theoretical and practical aspects of modern performance. The academy is totally inclusive and nobody will be turned away due to perceived ability; everyone has a pop star inside of them just waiting to be brought into the spot light.

Step Up and Sing is entirely made up of coaches who want to see local young people live their dreams and achieve their potential. Sarah and the other coaches are all hugely passionate about investing in local teenagers, giving them the sort of opportunities they have experienced. With years of performing on some of the UK's largest stages (The O2, Wembley stadium, The Royal Albert Hall) they make up a winning combination that will lead students to success.

Step Up and Sing operates out of the Jubilee Community Centre and Energie Gym in East Grinstead welcoming everyone to join the performance revolution.

For more information check out our website at www.stepupandsing.com or contact Step Up and Sing by email contact@stepupandsing.com

