

Families Bulletin

Monday 12 October 2026 - Friday 16 October 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Families

It has been another busy and productive week here at school, starting with our Year 11 Information Evening where we welcomed students and parents/carers to share practical strategies and help prepare everyone for the upcoming GCSE journey. At the other end of the school journey, it was wonderful to invite our new Year 7 parents in to meet the tutors and hear about how brilliantly our newest cohort is settling in.

We also hosted the final Year 6 Open Morning of the term. It was fantastic to see so many new faces; the event was fully oversubscribed, which is always a lovely testament to the strong reputation of our school community.

My proudest moment of the week comes from our talented public speakers, as we ended the week being crowned the winners of the Federation Oracy Competition! To see our students speak with such confidence, eloquence, and passion on a competitive stage was truly inspiring, and they should be immensely proud of their achievement.

Thank you to everyone who attended our events this week, and as always, thank you for your continued support.

Have a fantastic weekend.

Jo Meloni
Headteacher, BA (Hons), NPQEL, CPCC

Week: A Timetable: 4 + 1

Hot Chocolate with the Head

It was an absolute pleasure to stand in for Ms Meloni to celebrate the fantastic achievements of a group of Attenborough students. It was an excellent way to start the day by finding out why the students had been nominated. Striving for excellence in everything they do and resilience seem to be the common themes for this group of students. Well done to Lois, Abel, Lilla, Jacob, Rory, Lorena and Cameron. We all discussed our plans for the weekend and also what advice we would give to the students just below them in years. Lois' advice to Cameron for his GCSE year was particularly brilliant!

Mr James Collett
Assistant Headteacher



Key Dates

Thursday 15 October 2026	**Year 12 Information Evening** - 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm
Wednesday 21 October 2026	**Family Focus Group** - 4.00 pm
Thursday 22 October 2026	**KS4/KS5 Celebration Evening** - 6.00 pm - 7.30 pm
Friday 23 October - Monday 26 October 2026	**Year 12/13 CERN Trip**
Friday 23 October 2026	**Last Day of Term**
Monday 26 October - Friday 30 October 2026	**HALF TERM**
Wednesday 04 November 2026	**Sixth Form Open Evening** - 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm
	Pop-Up Uniform Shop - 3.30 pm - 5.30 pm
Thursday 05 November 2026	**Late Start for Students** - 9.25 am
Thursday 12 November 2026	**Year 8 Information Evening** - 4.30 pm - 6.30 pm

Wednesday 25 November 2026 — **INSET DAY**

Thursday 26 November 2026 — **Winter Concert** - 5.00 pm - 8.00 pm

Thursday 03 December 2026 — **Year 13 Consultation Evening** - 3.30 pm - 5.30 pm

Notice Board

Absence Reporting

Please can we ensure that parents are reporting absences through the Studybugs app wherever possible.

Parking

A polite reminder to all our wonderful families regarding parking around our school neighbourhood. As our drop-off and pick-up times get busy, we want to ensure everyone stays safe - and that we remain good neighbours to our local residents.

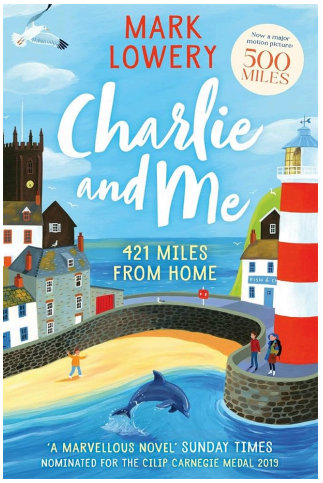
Please avoid blocking driveways, parking on pavements, double parking, or parking on yellow lines/zig -zags. Give plenty of space for children and families walking to and from school.

Thank you so much for your mindfulness, patience, and cooperation in keeping our school zone safe and stress-free for everyone.

Book of the Week

This week's book has come from our student recommendations in the library and is suggested for Key Stage 3 readers.

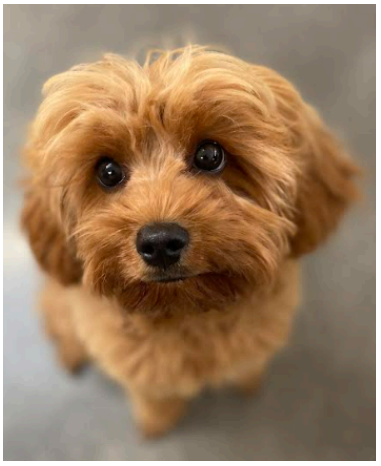
Charlie and Me is the award-nominated novel by Mark Lowery, telling the story of brothers Martin and Charlie on a remarkable adventure to Cornwall. It has also inspired the film *500 Miles* with Bill Nighy.



Year 10 - Design Technology - Technology Push and Market Pull

This term, Ms. Croft's Year 10 DT class took their learning beyond the classroom walls and out into the field! They are tackling the fascinating (and sometimes challenging) concepts of **Technology Push** and **Market Pull**. The students aren't just reading about these terms; they are analyzing real-world, everyday objects like retro game controllers, VHS tapes, and floppy disks to see this terminology in action. While in the field, they were tasked with investigating the design lifecycle of these items—comparing those driven by user need (market pull) to those driven by new technological breakthroughs (technology push). It's wonderful to see the pupils applying critical thinking to practical design examples, bringing the DT theory to life!

School Therapy Dog



We would like to introduce you to the School therapy dog, who will soon be coming into school with our counsellor, Eunice Taylor.
His name is **YOGI,** a hypoallergenic Cavapoo, who has been in training for 20 months, is insured, and is now qualified as a "Pets as Therapy" dog. You may see him skipping down the hallways, always on a lead, or in some counselling sessions, where permission is given. He will be wearing a badge to clearly identify himself, and the handler will only let him approach you if you agree to it. Research shows many benefits to having a dog on site, including lowering blood pressure and stress hormones, while increasing oxytocin and serotonin to lift mood. We hope he will be a valuable asset towards positive mental wellbeing in our students and that you look forward to seeing him around.
If you have questions about this, please do feel free to contact Etaylor@sackvilleschool.org.uk

Sparx Maths

Please find the live link to our Sparx Maths table here. This will be updated weekly.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

The link for this half term's extra-curricular sessions can be found here:

Extra-Curricular Opportunities Autumn Term

The 'live' document shows our sessions, and new clubs may appear throughout the term. These will be communicated through this document and the Families Bulletin. Once in the document, please scroll across to the year group relevant to your child.

Mr Ashley Vallally-Godfrey
Associate Assistant Headteacher

Together We Achieve

Please find our Together We Achieve programme here.

Current Vacancies

We have two support staff roles available at the moment. Please find the Candidate Information Packs below. If you would be interested in any of the following or know anyone else who may be, please call Katie Dawson, Headteacher's PA, for more information, or download the application form from our website:

- **Administrative Assistant - Closing date Friday 23 October 2026**
- **Learning Support Assistant - Closing date Monday 26 October 2026**
- **Exam Invigilators**

Safeguarding

Safeguarding Leads:
Mr Millican - amillican@sackvilleschool.org.uk
Mr Street - pstreet@sackvilleschool.org.uk
Mrs Steer - asteer@sackvilleschool.org.uk
Mr Vallally-Godfrey - avallallygodfrey@sackvilleschool.org.uk

Safeguarding Team:
Mr Endersby - jendersby@sackvilleschool.org.uk
Mrs Hunt - shunt@sackvilleschool.org.uk
Ms Porter - mporter@sackvilleschool.org.uk
Mr Cowlin - pcowlin@sackvilleschool.org.uk
Mr Quigley - pquigley@sackvilleschool.org.uk

Mrs Harper - aharper@sackvilleschool.org.uk
Mr Groves - hgroves@sackvilleschool.org.uk
Mrs Valentine - hvalentine@sackvilleschool.org.uk



Sackville News

We also publish a half-termly newsletter and the latest edition can be seen here: **Sackville Newsletter**.

Next publication date: **Friday 23 October 2026**

Futures - Find It Out Thursday

Find It Out Thursdays



This is a chance for students to explore different professions and learn from people who are in that industry.
Each week, a different professional comes in to talk to students about the different aspects of their job, how they entered that industry, the skills and qualifications required, and the different routes available to students thinking of joining that sector. Students have the opportunity to ask those in the know and get first-hand information.

Students can sign up for one talk each half term, so please encourage them to sign up using the Google Form shared with them and take advantage of this opportunity. Link

Autumn Half Term

This half term, we are lucky enough to have the following people coming in to speak to students.

- **Vets**

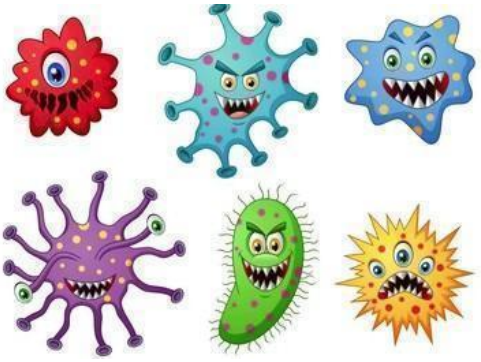
Is veterinary medicine an industry you would like to join? Would you like to work with animals? Come and hear about the industry and what is involved in looking after people's pets.

If you or someone you know would be willing to come in and speak to students about your profession, how you joined it, and what qualifications and routes are open to people, please let us know. Hearing from people who are doing it day to day is invaluable to students while they explore options open to them. If you would be willing to come in and inspire the younger generation, please contact Helen Smith on hsmith@sackvilleschool.org.uk.

Sussex Apprenticeship Bootcamp



Medication, Illness and Vaccines



NHS Guidelines

Please find some useful information here from the NHS on when to keep your child off school.

Medication

To ensure that we continue to support students when they are unwell, we need to make sure our records are up-to-date. As a school, we will continue to administer ad hoc medication as per the consent slip you have completed. If you wish for this to change, please contact the relevant year team. Should your child be diagnosed with any new medical condition, please contact us.

In addition, should your child's medical condition change (i.e., they no longer need to use their inhaler), please contact their community team.

We will continue to provide the support and medical assistance you have already agreed to unless we hear from you.

Illness

In order to keep the more vulnerable members of our school community safe, a reminder to inform the school if your child contracts any of the following: Chickenpox, Shingles, measles, or Mumps. Please call the relevant community office. Thank you in advance.

Lost Property

Please can we ask that you check the lost property list above for items missing and encourage students to look in lost property for their missing items. Can we remind parents to name everything for a much higher chance of relocating lost property to their rightful owner.

Community Clubs, Sports, Services and Events

Half Term Tennis Camps



Tennis Sessions



Dorking Wanderers Academy



Fundraising Race Night



Yvonne Arnaud - Youth Theatre



Storm Basketball Website here



Crawley Down - U18 Girls



Teach South East

Teach SouthEast
SUSSEX HUB

Bosco
TEACHER TRAINING

Get into Teaching
Online Recruitment Event

- 📅 Tuesday 20 October
- ⏰ 6:00pm to 7:00pm
- 💻 Online via Microsoft Teams Join:

https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/365491176499075?p=e4sJTu8poxhnjBfU0P

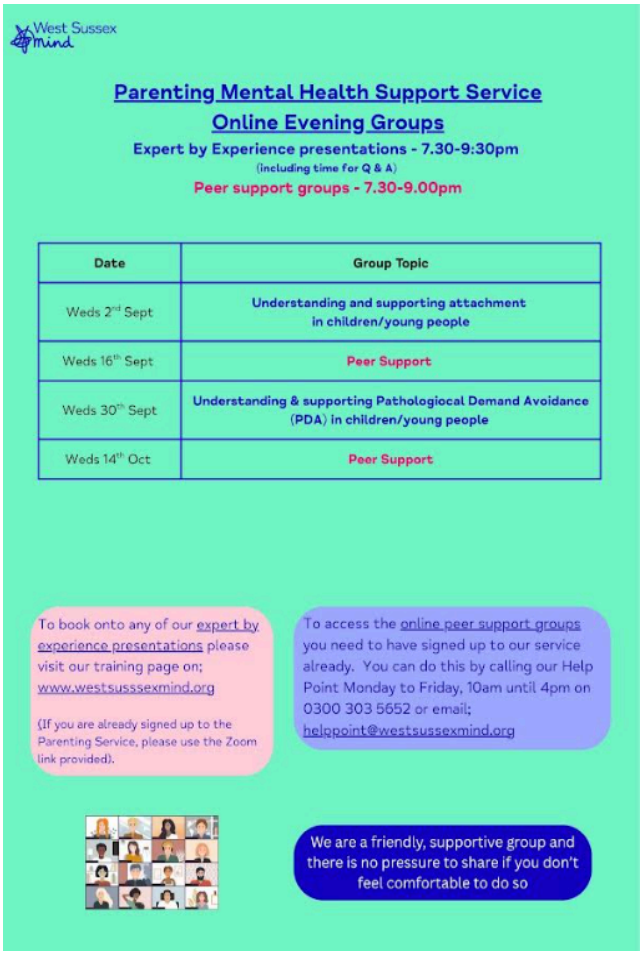
Meeting ID: 365 491 176 499 075
Passcode: LW6pD9Uz

Discover:
- Teacher training routes
- Funding and bursaries
- School placements
- How to apply
- Book your place today fill in This Form

https://www.boscocet.org.uk/train-to-teach/

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH XAVIER TEACH SOUTHEAST ACCREDITED PROVIDER

Parenting Mental Health Service Mind - West Sussex









October Timetable - Face

FACE

October Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Raising Self-Esteem	5 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	5 Oct 7pm
Decreasing Depression	6 Oct 10am
Introduction to OCD	6 Oct 7pm
Improving Family Communication	12 Oct 10am
What is ACT?	12 Oct 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	13 Oct 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	13 Oct 7pm
Understanding Anger	19 Oct 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	19 Oct 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	20 Oct 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	20 Oct 7pm
FREE - ADHD and Homework	22 Oct 7-8pm
Facing Defiance	26 Oct 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	26 Oct 7pm
School Anxiety	27 Oct 10am
Anxiety Explained	27 Oct 7pm

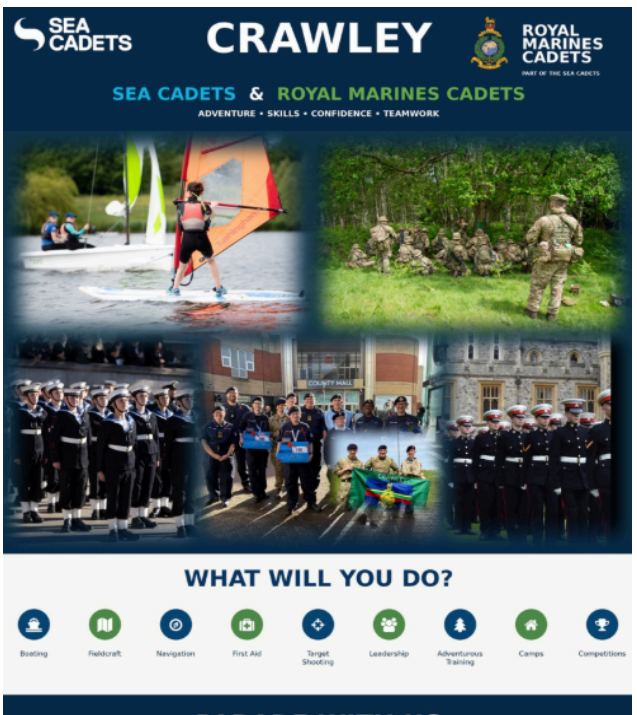
Forest Row F.C



The Addams Family - A New Musical



Crawley Sea Cadets



Young Professionals - Information Evenings



Reserve your place here.

Allsorts Youth



The Sussex Dance Company



Tonbridge Tristar Aquathlon

Tonbridge Lions are hosting the brand-new **Tonbridge Tristar Aquathlon** for 8-14-year-olds and would love as many entries as possible from local school pupils.

Details can be found here:
https://www.tonbridgetriathlon.com/
https://www.facebook.com/tonbridgetriathlon/
https://www.instagram.com/tonbridgetriathlon/

100% of profits go to local causes/charities. There are also the usual adult Triathlons on the same day.

[Chelsea Player Development](#)





Thomas Bennett Football Academy





TBCC Academy Education

OPTION A

NVQ Coach Education Programme

- Introduction to Coaching Football
- Introduction to First Aid in Football/Safeguarding Children
- Introduction to Talent Identification
- L2 and L3 Vocational Diplomas in Coaching
- Extensive work experience programme.

OPTION B

Level 3 CTEC Diploma in Sport

- Studying a wide range of elements of the sporting world into footbal context.
- A wide range of evidence to complete assignments all based around sporting topics.
- Introduction to Coaching Football

Requirements: minimum 4x GCSE L4 grades including Maths and English

OPTION C

Level 3 CTEC Extended Diploma in Sport

- Completion of L3 CTEC Diploma with 6 extra units
- Extra units added to studies to gain extended diploma

OPTION D

Level 3 CTEC Extended Diploma in Sport Plus an Extra A-Level

- 2 year diploma equivalent to 2 full A-Levels plus an extra A-Level in a

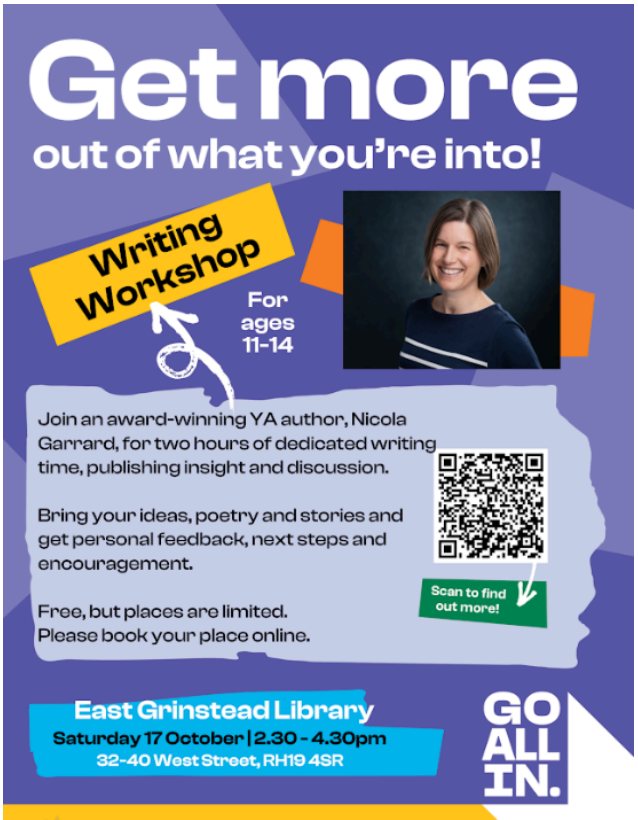


Author Event



Link for video here





Hindleap Adventure Camp





Lingfield Farmers Market



East Grinstead Rugby Club



Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic Book Club



Our new **Scholastic Book Club is up and running!** Go to https://clubs.scholastic.co.uk/C-TW76L2R4 to browse the latest books and order online. For **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club, **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards.

Please place your **order online by November 8th, 2026**.