

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

The cornerstones of our learning community

16th June 2023

## Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, thank you to all Year 9 parents and carers who attended our Celebration event yesterday evening. It was a real pleasure to celebrate with our Year 9 students, to witness their achievements and hear such glowing praise from their tutors and Head of Year. I hope that they feel excited and inspired by the presentation on their transition to Upper School, and that they enjoy their final two weeks at Lower School. They have much to be proud of, both in terms of their academic achievements and their personal development.

It has been a pleasure to attend two events showcasing our students' artistic talents this week. There was some terrific art on display from our incredibly talented Year 11 and 13 students at the Art Exhibition on Wednesday. It was wonderful to hear from some of the artists themselves as I browsed the art and pottery they have worked on for their GCSE and A-Level courses.

Well done too to our enormously talented actors and singers who made the Summer Stage Performance such an enjoyable event this week. We were treated to an extremely broad range of work, all devised by the students themselves, and some fantastic 'songs from the shows' too.

My apologies for the late communication about students wearing PE kit during the hot spell this week. We will always aim to make the decision regarding PE kit in advance and communicate via all the usual channels in good time. Our current plan is to revert to normal uniform next week from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June (as the weather is cooler) but if there are any changes, we will update you.

## Federation Inset Day – Wednesday 21st June

A reminder that this Wednesday is an Inset Day. Our staff are working with colleagues across all four schools in our Federation – Sackville School, Downlands Community School and Oathall Community College. Working together in this way allows all four schools to pool ideas, share guest speakers and trainers and collaborate with staff they don't normally have the chance to work with to develop teaching strategies and resources.

The school is only open on Wednesday to students in Year 11 and 13 who are taking public exams.

## Keeping children safe online over the summer – information for parents

Attached is some information from a company called Safety Net about how to keep your children safe online over the Summer holidays. It is a timely reminder of the key messages about internet safety, including online gaming and social media, and how to set parental controls.

## Word of the Week

noise of money				
superfluous	adjective	unnecessary or needless		
The extra information provided was entirely superfluous.				

Word of the Week - Headteacher's Postcard Challenge









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I am challenging students from any year group to write a postcard which sounds like it was sent from a location in Britain or further afield and contains **at least three** words of the week from the year so far (see list below). The postcard must sound 'real' – i.e. it should read like a real postcard and not have lots of unconnected sentences with words of the week in them.

Students should underline the words of the week in the postcard.

All entries must reach the school by Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July – and be handed in to Reception at either site. There will be prizes and certificates for the most imaginative entries.

elucidate	verb	to make clear
ostentatious	adj.	an attempt to impress others
decorum	noun	dignified propriety of behaviour, speech, dress
judicious	adj.	using or showing judgment; wise; sensible
convey	verb	to carry, bring, or take from one place to another; to make known
nonchalant	adj.	coolly unconcerned, indifferent, or unexcited; casual
ravenous	adj.	extremely hungry; intensely eager for gratification or satisfaction
analyse	verb	separate into parts or elements; to examine carefully and in detail so as to identify causes, key factors, possible results
integral	noun	relating to, or belonging as a part of the whole; necessary to the completeness of the whole
evaluate	verb	to judge or determine the significance, worth, or quality of
encapsulate	verb	to place in a capsule; to summarize or condense.
palpable	adj.	readily or plainly seen, heard, perceived; capable of being touched
quintessential	Adj.	relating to the most perfect embodiment of something; pure and essential essence of something
efficacy	noun	the ability to produce a desired or intended result.
inherent	adj.	existing something as a permanent and inseparable element, quality, or attribute
evoke	Verb	bring or recall (a feeling, memory, or image) to the conscious mind.
justify	Verb	to defend or uphold as warranted or well-grounded
suggest	Verb	to mention or introduce an idea, proposition, plan for consideration or possible action
equity	noun	the quality of being fair or impartial

Yours faithfully

Mr Lee Walker Headteacher

Attached: Key Dates Week 36B & 37A

Keeping Children Safe Online during Summer Holidays