

Monday 20th September 2021

Newsletter



Message from the Headmaster

Week two shot by!

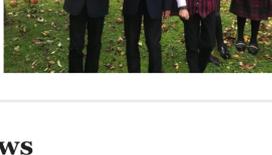
It has been a great week getting to know the new scholars and catching up with the returnees (mums and dads I have no idea what you have been feeding them over the holiday period but either I am shrinking or they have all shot up!).

I think the highlight of the week was being called on to cover for Form 1 Spanish. It reaffirmed what a great job this is. We wondered around the estate picking and eating apples and learning new words of things we could see – basically it was an 'I spy' lesson with a lot of help from google translate, but I think what made it so refreshing was the enthusiasm and eagerness the young scholars had to want to learn... later that week Form 1 also joined Mr Toby to help him bottle our Buckswood honey. I arrived a little late to the session but they proudly told me that bees only live for 5 weeks and it takes 12 bees to make a teaspoon of honey – well there you go, that's your useful fact for the week sorted (and if they could tell me all of this in Spanish – they get a commendation!!).

On Friday I led assembly with the theme of the importance of friendships in school and in life generally, reiterating this with one of Aesop's fables!

Each year I take a group photo of my Upper 6th class at the start of the year when they all look stress free, and then one at the end of the year when exams are over and it looks as if they have not slept for weeks! Below is this year's Upper 6th ready for the challenge that lies ahead of them, and I must say what a great bunch they are!!!

Week 3 already! Good luck everyone!



Old Buckswoodian News

From Celeste Flores:

"To this day I still remember my time at Buckswood as the best year of my life. I got to travel and meet people from all around the world and that is an experience I know I could not have gotten anywhere else.

It is my pleasure to inform you that you sparked a light in me to get to know the world. I went back to the U.K last year and lived in London for a few months before COVID made me go back to America. But don't worry, Sali and I managed to have fun together for the few months I was there.

I am still traveling the world, always reading the book you gifted to me and always remembering you and my fellow Buckswoodians. I recently graduated from one of the top universities in Texas with a double degree in Political Science and Sociology.

I am emailing you because I will be an applicant to one of the most prestigious exchange programs in the world, the Fulbright program. When they asked me to choose a country I didn't think it twice before choosing Greece. You also gifted me with the experience of watching the Mamma Mia musical for the first time. I was exposed to the Greek culture and since then I have always been amazed by it.

I will never stop being grateful transforming me into the traveler I am."



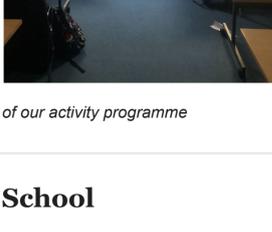
From Sam Dupuy:

"We have just finished pre season matches in Valence and had our first league match. So far so good, French is a bit complicated and as fly half it's not easy, but it's all a process I'm very grateful for. Hopefully some time soon I can stop by and see what's new, I do miss the Buckswood family."



P7

Last week, our P7 activities took place between 4-5pm. Students are able to select from the following extra curricular activities: Model United Nations, Duke of Edinburgh, Cooking, Art, Tennis, Cricket, Football, Rugby, Stocks and Shares, Netball, Gym, Performing Arts and Independent Learning.



Cooking and stocks and shares - just part of our activity programme

News from the Junior School

Second week in and it has certainly been a busy one! We started the week off with junior school embracing Mindfulness Mondays. How heart-warming it was to see everyone participating and getting into the spirit of mindfulness.

In science, the Form 1 students have been studying 'gums to bums', the pathway of the digestive system and looking at subcellular structures found in both animal and plant cells. Students then drew these out and made models out of playdoh!

Making the most of this beautiful sunshine this week, Mr Sutton took the students for a walk and showed them how honey was made. Don't worry, no one was stung in the process!

Form 1 class captain this week was Mathis who did a fantastic job reflecting upon the week. His highlights were in English where the class is reading Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone and in Art, where it is never too early to start Christmas decorations!

In PE, the students did a mini sports day, spending 30 seconds on each activity: hurdles, long jump, hockey, slalom, sit ups, star jumps and 30 metre sprint, followed by football and bean bags, sit and reach and tennis.



News from the GCSE years

The students continue to settle into the school in this new academic year and seem very happy and engaged with their lessons.

There will be a multi-activity /teambuilding day for Form 4 and 5 on Thursday October 7th 2021 with Trek co. It looks to be a stimulating day. In addition, a careers day is planned on 1st October for all of Form 5.

This academic year will pass quickly and its vital that they start to revise and continue to revise for their exams. Form 5 mocks will start late January 2022/early February and it is imperative that the students revise hard to achieve high grades in these

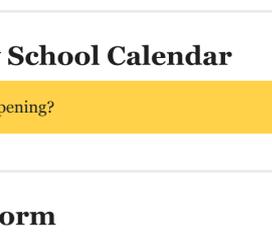
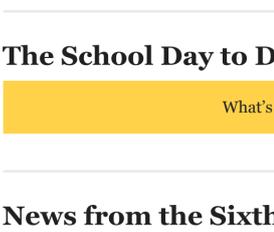
Revision: Tip 1 Seneca Learning- a free and interactive resource for GCSE students to help them aim for level 9 in all subjects.

Students can also attend access time. They can contact their teachers on teams to arrange this.

Buckswood offer numerous subjects in IB and A Level and we continue to have an extremely high success rate on these courses leading them to successful outcomes in University.

Boarding

This weekend was a busy one, with a trip to Canterbury, a BBQ cook off and visit from Frankie's Ices



The School Day to Day School Calendar

What's happening?

News from the Sixth Form

The sixth form have had another productive week here at Buckswood, not only in the classroom where they've been learning how to follow proper research protocol and how to view subcellular components under the microscope, but also out of it.

The prefects have been put through their paces via prefect training, which I believe involves fiery pits and tightropes and on Wednesday the whole of the L6th plus the U6th IB, went on a teambuilding day near East Grinstead that had everyone bonding over tree climbing and puzzle solving. My team came third and a big well done to Mr Rodriguez and Mrs Deane whose teams came in first and second.

Last week, Mr Shaw lead a UCAS session for A level members of the Upper Sixth, here they discussed their future plans and predicted grades. A similar session will be held for IB students on Wednesday.

When it comes to the U6th IB, the pressure is truly on as the next few months are all about the coursework component in their six subjects - plus, of course, the Theory of Knowledge (TOK), which I teach. In fact, this Friday morning, periods 3 and 4 in the Great Hall, they will be presenting their TOK Exhibitions to their teachers and peers. This means sitting in the hall waiting to be quizzed about their 3 objects, which they will have connected to one overarching knowledge question, as well as writing a 950 word essay in support. Mr Bramley.

Contacts

- School Director - Mr Sutton achieve@buckswood.co.uk
- Principal School Operations – Mr Samson ksamson@buckswood.co.uk
- Principal Academics – Mr Shaw mshaw@buckswood.co.uk
- Head of Key Stage 3 – Mr Bramley lornabramley@buckswood.co.uk
- Head of Key Stage 4 – Ms Rodgers srodgers@buckswood.co.uk
- Head of Key Stage 5 – Mr Shaw mshaw@buckswood.co.uk
- Deputy Head of Sixth Form – Mr Bramley lukesbramley@buckswood.co.uk
- Head of IB – Mrs Richards crichards@buckswood.co.uk
- DSL – Mr R Maclean rmaclean@buckswood.co.uk
- ADSL and attendance – Anne Jeffrey – admin2@buckswood.co.uk
- Head of EFL and International student support – Mr Field gfield@buckswood.co.uk

[Language Lesson sign up sheet - click here](#)

[Music sign up sheet - click here](#)

[Curriculum plan and options - click here](#)

[Residential staff information - click here](#)

