

Weekly Bulletin for Families

Message from the Head of School

I am delighted to be writing my first Family Bulletin to you all as your new Head of School. I would first like to welcome you all to SET Saxmundham and in particular to families that have joined us this September in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 11.

We have had a very busy four days listening to staff, students and families in getting it right with our 'new normal'. I have appreciated the honesty and support I have had from all groups in making changes so that we facilitate the best learning environment for our students. Please could I make an appeal that you contact the school via phone or email your suggestions or concerns instead of posting online. I can assure you we are open to hear what you have to say.

The staggered start has enabled staff at Saxmundham focus their attention on those year groups coming in. We had all students in on Thursday and Friday and the feeling in the school was totally focused on learning and recapturing the routines that make the day go well. Thank you to our wonderful community at SET Saxmundham.

Mrs L Girling, Head of School



Mrs L Girling
Head of School

Message from Miss Marsden

It has been fantastic to see the students back in this week and for the building once again to be bustling with life. I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you that the three school rules are Ready, Respectful and Safe. This follows on from our launch of these rules prior to lockdown as we move forwards in our pivotal approach to behaviour management.

We will continue to remind the students of these and would be hugely grateful if you can also discuss these rules with them at home.

I hope you're all keeping safe and well.

Miss S Marsden, Assistant Headteacher

Year 6 Virtual Open Evening

Saxmundham has been busy preparing for this event - filming and interviewing staff and students on how the school works, what we are good at and what make us special. The students spoke highly of the school. The staff talked about their subjects and how the school is organised for the benefit of our students.

Please do pass on the information for this event to family and friends so they too can find out about what it would be like to join our caring community.

To register for the event visit: <https://www.saxmundhamschool.org.uk/virtual-open-evening/>

Parents' and Carers' Open Forum

There will be a Parents' and Carers' Open Forum on Friday 11 September at 10.15 - 11.15am. This will take place via Zoom. If you would like to attend please email saxmundham@seckfordeducation.org.uk.

Parent/Carer COVID-19 Preparedness Portal

<https://app.smartsheet.com/dashboards/wpxppMPccQJhP7hV82FFJ3P6XMHGxgh4f53Xhj7I>

This portal contains links to lots of useful information and guidance. It also provides access to the forms which parents/carers should complete should they, or anyone with their family, become unwell, display any symptoms of COVID-19, have travelled abroad and/or been exposed to anyone displaying symptoms of COVID-19.

The Restaurant

Our students enjoying the food on offer on Friday.



Thank you for working with us these last four days, particularly about the serving of breakfast. The Trust has worked with schools to improve the breakfast – From Wednesday we will be offering cereal and fruit in year group bubbles.

Personal Education Plans

On their return to school all students spent some time with their form tutor thinking about their future and selecting a career path that they would like to follow. Students were encouraged to not only think about the first job that they might have but also to expand on this by identifying a possible career path and where this could ultimately lead to.

To record this each student then had their photograph taken holding a sign saying what job or career they were aspiring to obtain. These photographs will be proudly displayed in the school. They will act to remind the students what they are aiming for and how being successful in their school work will help them achieve their goal. As they will be visible in school they will also be viewed by all the teachers and other staff who will be able to see what the students are aiming for and how they can support them in achieving their aspirations.

We wish every student success in achieving the goals that they identified and in the future look forward to hearing about the many and varied careers that students from SET Saxmundham go into.

Mr J Woolvan

Learning at SET Saxmundham School

I am really proud of how quickly our students have got used to the new way of learning. Staff have moved to teach them in their rooms and this has been very successful as learning starts promptly with students ready to learn.

Thank you to all of you who have made sure your children have the right equipment to hand as this means we can maximise their learning and help us to catch them up as quickly as possible. Please keep supporting us in this way.



School Uniform

One of the most impressive things I have seen is the students' commitment to wearing their school uniform - long may it continue.

I have noticed though that students are wearing jewellery and not just one ring but many. Please make sure that your children come to school with just one pair of earrings – studs or sleepers and a watch. All other items of jewellery are not allowed. By allowing your children to wear jewellery means that staff are spending time dealing with removal of these items and not getting to the real job of teaching. Please support us in this, it is really important.



Parent/Carer feedback on Year 7s first week

“She has absolutely loved it, I am very proud of her, she has totally shocked me.”

“He has been very chatty and positive about his experience so far and I am very grateful for the support he has already received.”

“She has really enjoyed week one. She keeps saying how glad she is that she is going to Saxmundham.”

“She seems to be really enjoying it this week.”

“He has enjoyed school very much, he likes all the teachers.”

“He seems to be really enjoying himself so far.”

Friends of SET Saxmundham School

Our wonderful students need us to get together to support them in their endeavours to be successful. It would be great if we could get 'Friends of Saxmundham' up and running so that we can provide our students and families with social and fundraising events to provide those little extras our young people deserve. Please do email the office if you could help.



Dates For Your Diary

Year 7

Wednesday 14 October: “Settling In” Information Evening
Friday 16 October: Progress Checkpoint 1 - reports sent home
Thursday 10 December: Progress Checkpoint 2 - reports sent home
Tuesday 30 March: Progress Checkpoint 3 - reports sent home
Monday 10 - Friday 14 May: KS3 examinations
Thursday 24 June: Progress Checkpoint 4 - reports sent home

Year 8

Friday 16 October: Progress Checkpoint 1 - reports sent home
Thursday 10 December: Progress Checkpoint 2 - reports sent home
Tuesday 30 March: Progress Checkpoint 3 - reports sent home
Thursday 29 April: Progress Evening
Monday 10 - Friday 14 May: KS3 examinations
Thursday 24 June: Progress Checkpoint 4 - reports sent home

Year 9

Friday 16 October: Progress Checkpoint 1 - reports sent home
Thursday 10 December: Progress Checkpoint 2 - reports sent home
Wednesday 20 January: Year 9 Progress Evening with GCSE Information
Tuesday 30 March: Progress Checkpoint 3 - reports sent home
Monday 10 - Friday 14 May: KS3 examinations
Monday 21 June: Year 9/10 “Is University for You?” Evening
Thursday 24 June: Progress Checkpoint 4 - reports sent home

Year 10

Thursday 8 October: Progress Evening
Friday 16 October: Progress Checkpoint 1 - reports sent home
Thursday 10 December: Progress Checkpoint 2 - reports sent home
Tuesday 30 March: Progress Checkpoint 3 - reports sent home
Tuesday 4 May - Friday 14 May: Mock Examinations
Monday 21 June: Year 9/10 “Is University for You?” Evening
Thursday 24 June: Progress Checkpoint 4 - reports sent home

Year 11

Thursday 15 October: Year 11 GCSE Art mock examination
Friday 16 October: Year 11 GCSE Photography mock examination
Friday 16 October: Progress Checkpoint 1 - reports sent home
Monday 2 - Friday 13 November: Mock Examinations 1
Thursday 3 December: Progress Evening - mock examination results
Thursday 10 December: Progress Checkpoint 2 - reports sent home
Monday 22 February - Friday 5 March: Mock Examinations 2
Thursday 25 March: Progress Evening - mock examination results
Tuesday 30 March: Progress Checkpoint 3 - reports sent home

Parents' and Carers' Open Forum

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| Friday 11 September: 10.15 - 11.15am | Tuesday 6 October: 9.30 – 10.30am |
| Tuesday 8 December: 9.30 – 10.30am | Tuesday 26 January: 9.30 – 10.30am |
| Tuesday 16 March: 9.30 – 10.30am | Tuesday 4 May: 9.30 – 10.30am |
| Friday 25 June: 9.30 – 10.30am | |

Other Events

Thursday 10 December: Achievement Evening (6.45 - 8.00pm)
Friday 11 December: Friends Christmas Fair
Tuesday 15 December: School Christmas Lunch

Year 6 Into 7 Transition

Wednesday 16 June: Transition Evening/ Meet the Tutor (5.00 - 7.00pm)
Tuesday 29 - Wednesday 30 June: Transition Days