



SARACENS
HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

November 2018

At the time of writing this newsletter, we have recorded over 35,000 merits, with 133 incidents of pupils performing unsolicited acts of kindness towards other members of our community, and 22 pupils have been rewarded with 'Hot Chocolate with the Principal'. This award recognises pupils who do the right thing day in, day out and it is a privilege for me to sit with them each week and spend time listening to their thoughts about what is going well and which teachers are making a real impact in their lives.

We have also had a number of other acknowledgements for pupils making exceptional progress and living our values. We have had three winners of the Jack Petchey

award, and two pupils had a special video message from Saracens superstar, Alex Lozowski, for being such great ambassadors for the Saracens values.

One of the special things about working or studying at Saracens High School is our values. I am proud that all of our pupils know the values, and recognise how 'living them' will help them to be more successful in life.

I hope you have a safe, peaceful, and relaxing break and look forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

Dr Stevens
Principal

Upcoming term dates

Monday 7 January - Staff training (no pupils)
Tuesday 8 January - First day of term for pupils
Monday 18 to Friday 22 February – Spring half term
Friday 5 April – End of spring term



Sir Jack Petchey CBE founded the **Jack Petchey Foundation** in 1999 to recognise the positive contributions young people make to society and assist them in achieving their potential. The Jack Petchey award gives each pupil a certificate, badge and £250 to spend in school.

Last month the teachers nominated pupils that have worked really hard and deserved this award. Each nominated pupil had quote written about them by the staff member nominating them. All Year 7 pupils received a ballot paper with the anonymous quotes for each of the students to vote for and the top three students were awarded the Jack Petchey Award. They have chosen to spend their money in Science and PE.

Jack Petchey Award Winners

September 2018

October 2018

November 2018

“Jasmine’s maturity and compassion to fellow peers is beyond that of a Year 7 pupil. She gives constant positive comments, encouraging words and instructions to fellow team members, inspiring them.”

Gemma has shown resilience to become a real leader of her peer group by persevering through adversity.”

Zuleika’s attitude towards school and learning is inspirational, and is always a positive role model to have in the class”



Saracens Rugby Club

Saracens vs Sale – Saturday 17th November 2018; Saracens High School students were invited to be flagbearers at Gallagher Premiership Rugby match and had some coaching before kick-off.



New appointments

We would like to congratulate Miss Style, who has been appointed as Acting Assistant Principal through to September 2020. She will continue to lead Maths, and will be developing our work on culture and character. We are also very pleased to have made a start to our appointments for September 2019, when we will effectively be doubling in size. We have already appointed an amazing Science teacher who is a very experienced Chemist, along with an exceptional young English teacher. We recently advertised for a Vice Principal, who will start in September, and received 57 applications. Considering the national recruitment crisis, this is a remarkable outcome and we look forward to meeting the shortlisted candidates for the two-day interview process in January

Egyptian Cultural Centre Trip

On Monday 26th November, 25 pupils had the opportunity to visit the Egyptian Cultural Centre in Mayfair. We were welcomed by consular staff and taken to the formal reception room, which had the most beautiful ceiling. The pupils also had the opportunity to learn more about modern Egypt and how the country has changed since the time of the pharaohs.

We were very grateful to the staff of the cultural centre for offering us this opportunity and to Khadija's family for helping organise the visit. We were also hugely impressed by the behaviour and attitude of the pupils during the trip. We even received an email from a member of the public praising their behaviour on the tube.

Thank you to everyone involved.

Miss Morphitis



Uniform

We are extremely proud of our uniform and the pupils look very smart. We have a uniform to ensure that all pupils are equal and so there cannot be any cliques or bullying related to clothing (such as, 'You need to have the latest Nike bag to be in our group'). Please note that our policy regarding pupils not in uniform is that they will be taught away from their peers. This is something that will be strictly reinforced in the new term. This term, we have had an increasing number of children wearing incorrect shoes to school. School shoes must be: plain, black leather-style lace-up or slip-on formal shoes. Black laces only. No logos or embellishment. No trainers, plimsolls, canvas shoes, open-toe shoes, sandals, boots, high heels, or wedges. Please see the Parent Information Booklet or Pupil Planner for more information.

Any pupil not in correct uniform in January will be taught away from their normal class until they are in correct uniform

School Lunch

The cost of a meal will continue to be £2.30 for the remainder of the academic year, to July 2019. The Spring term is 12 weeks long. The cost of meals for the Spring term is therefore £135.70. Please ensure you top up your child's account before the start of term. If your circumstances change and you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please contact us and we will be able to help you apply.

We have made some improvements to the menu during the term, to enable us to provide the meals that the majority of children enjoy the most. This has included more hot puddings. The weekly menu can be seen on the school website.

Breakfast Club

Our breakfast club runs from 7.30 to 8.15am for those who need to be in school early. We offer breakfast biscuits and fruit as well as the chance to chat with friends and play games. We have been able to secure some funding from the Kellogg's Breakfast Club Grants Programme and we are therefore delighted to be able to continue to provide the club at no charge. We hope that more children will take advantage of the club in the cold and wet mornings of winter.

Mrs Edwards

Polar Network Antarctica Flag Competition

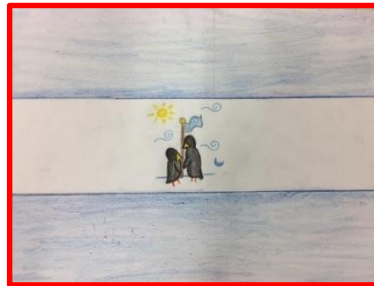
In Geography pupils have been studying Antarctica this half term. As part of this, they all took part in the Antarctica Day flag competition, which is organised by the Polar Network. As Antarctica is not a country it doesn't have an official flag, so the pupils were tasked with designing one, which reflected what they had learnt about the continent.

The five winning flags were chosen by a staff judging team and are now on their way to Antarctica. We will be receiving photographs of our flags being held by scientists in Antarctica, and I look forward to sharing these with you in a future newsletter. I hope you agree that our winning flags show great creativity and hard work.

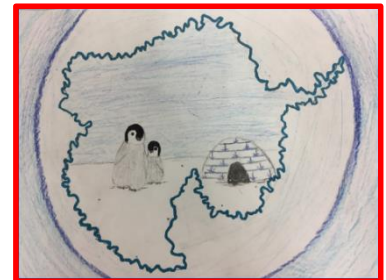
Miss Morphitis



Rasha – Alphonsi



Jasmine - Wilberforce



Ela - Rimla



Meryem – Wilberforce



Saskia - Hill

eSafety

Keeping children safe online

This term we have worked on e-safety, and how social media can have a positive and negative impact on our mental health. We know that many of our children have access to social media, but as a parent or carer, are you aware of the dangers and do you know what they are doing on-line? Schools are now more worried about the impact of social media-related mental health issues (like

anxiety, depression, and sleep deprivation) than smoking, drugs, and alcohol.

There are some very good apps available now to support parents in tracking their children's online activities. We don't endorse any particular one but please do research what is available and make sure that you know your child is safe. The link below review some of the software available to you.

<https://www.spyzie.com/parental-controls/free-parental-control-software.html>

If you know of any cyber-bullying or unkind behaviour online, please let us know as soon as possible.

Mr Mitman.

Maths

It's been a fantastic term in Maths, with pupils volunteering their time to support others in Brain Gym, two inter-house Rock Wrangles, rolling tables, inter-house challenges and the launch of Mathletes. I am endlessly impressed by our pupils' engagement in learning and their willingness to go above and beyond, in their own time as well as in lessons. Last week I set an extra home-learning which was a challenging KS4 task solving Area problems. Not only did the majority of pupil's volunteer to do this extra piece of work, but 26 pupils achieved 100% - well done Year 7!

Miss Style

Times Tables Rockstars

Leaderboard					
Rank	Name	Group	Rock Status	Baseline (over 100/100)	Change since baseline
1	Jeff Cooper	7HA1	Rock Hero	1.06	0.60 (-0.46)
2	Charlie Johnson	7HA2	Rock Hero	1.23	0.65 (-0.44)
3	Tori Eads	7DA2	Rock Hero	1.50	0.67 (-0.83)
4	Megan Milton	7HA2	Rock Hero	0.88	0.75 (-0.13)
5	Jeff Blackwood	7HA1	Rock Hero	1.90	0.80 (-1.10)
6	Fade Sweet	7DA1	Rock Hero	1.83	0.87 (-0.86)
7	Michael Wronster	7HA2	Rock Hero	1.91	0.84 (-0.87)
8	J Bullet	7DA2	Rock Hero	2.74	0.98 (-1.76)
9	Max Belle Ryler	7DA2	Rock Hero	2.91	0.99 (-1.92)
10	Marlie E. Hendrix	7HA1	Rock Hero	1.86	0.99 (-0.87)
11	Amazon Cags	7HA2	Rock Hero	2.54	0.99 (-1.55)
12	Dudley Storm	7DA2	Rock Legend	2.78	1.03 (-1.95)

Congratulations to Hill for winning our December Rock Wrangle!

Check out our Year 7's excellent Maths revision posters.

LCM: The lowest common multiple

HCF: The highest common factor

AREA: The space inside a 2D shape. Area is measured in square units.

PERIMETER: The total length around the outside of a 2D shape.

Area of Trapezium: $\frac{1}{2}(a+b)h$

Area of Parallelogram: $b \times h$

Area of Triangle: $\frac{1}{2}bh$

Area of Rectangle: $l \times w$

Perimeter of Trapezium: $a+b+c+d$

Perimeter of Parallelogram: $2(a+b)$

Perimeter of Triangle: $a+b+c$

Perimeter of Rectangle: $2(l+w)$

Product: The result of multiplication.

Sum: The result of addition.

Maths

Area of Trapezium: $\frac{1}{2}(a+b)h$

Perpendicular: At a line at the angle of 90 degrees to another line.

Area of Parallelogram: $b \times h$

Area of Triangle: $\frac{1}{2}bh$

Area of Rectangle: $l \times w$

Product: The result of multiplication.

Sum: The result of addition.

Area

Perimeter

Area of Trapezium

Area of Parallelogram

Area of Triangle

Area of Rectangle

Perimeter of Trapezium

Perimeter of Parallelogram

Perimeter of Triangle

Perimeter of Rectangle

Maths

Area of Trapezium

Area of Parallelogram

Area of Triangle

Area of Rectangle

Perimeter of Trapezium

Perimeter of Parallelogram

Perimeter of Triangle

Perimeter of Rectangle

MATHS

Area of Trapezium

Area of Parallelogram

Area of Triangle

Area of Rectangle

Perimeter of Trapezium

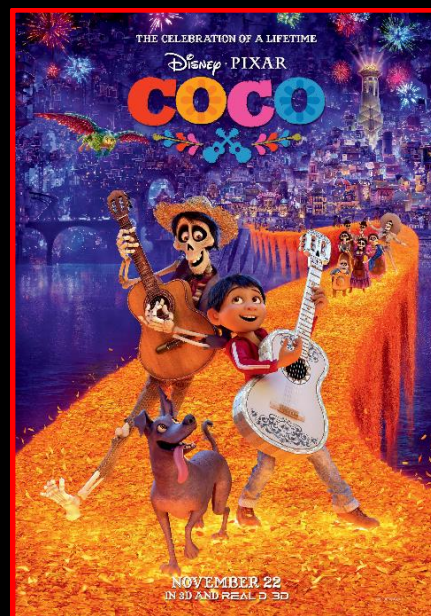
Perimeter of Parallelogram

Perimeter of Triangle

Perimeter of Rectangle

Our History Month – Trip to the Cinema: COCO

To give closure to 'Our History month' on Wednesday 31st October all Saracens staff and pupils went on an adventure to watch the Mexican film 'Coco' at Everyman cinema in Barnet. The film is based on the holiday of Día de Muertos, a 12-year-old boy named Miguel, and his journey to the Land of the Dead in search of his own heritage and history. We enjoyed watching the movie in Spanish with English subtitles and singing along to the song 'Un poco loco' which we had learnt in Spanish lessons. It was a great experience for all involved from watching the film and sharing a few tears in the last couple of minutes to the tube ride on the Northern Line as well as the comfy sofas and great facilities that Everyman cinema in Barnet had to offer. We hope to repeat this experience in the near future



Mrs Bonilla

Spanish and Design and Technology

In both Spanish and Design & Technology we have been learning about The Mexican Day of the Dead. Design & Technology, taught once per week at Saracens High School, is a subject where we are working on a felt toy. On November 2nd, it was Mexican Day of the Dead, therefore, we planned, designed and made a felt toy to represent this. First, we drew out two initial design ideas before designing our final design. Then, we started sewing on all the facial features using different techniques such as an applique, running stitch, overstitch and blanket stitch. After that, we stuffed and closed the toy up. By the end, we had a squishy Mexican Day of the Dead felt toy! I have loved this project in DT as it's been loads of fun learning about stitching techniques and equipment!

En las clases de Español y Diseño hemos estado aprendiendo sobre la tradición mejicana del día de los muertos. La clase de diseño, la cual se lleva a cabo una vez por semana, es una asignatura en la que hemos estado fabricando un juguete de paño. Dado que el dos de noviembre se celebró internacionalmente el día de los muertos, tuvimos la oportunidad de planear, diseñar y hacer nuestro propio juguete de paño para conmemorarlo. La siguiente fase fue coser todos los rasgos faciales usando diferentes técnicas como aplicaciones, fileteado, sobrepunteado y punto de manta. Luego de terminar, lo rellenos y lo sellamos. Al final nuestro producto fue un blando juguete de paño del día de los muertos! A mí me encantó este proyecto porque me divertí mucho aprendiendo diferentes técnicas de punteado y usando diferentes materiales y recursos!

by Zulekha



Example of our Day of the Dead felt toys

Young Language Leaders

On Thursday 13th December the pupils who belong to the Young Language Leaders after school club delivered their first Spanish lesson at The Orion and Goldbeaters Primary schools. They had been planning their lessons for the last four weeks supported by Mrs Bonilla and Ms Hegba and all their hard work paid off when they were successful in engaging the Year 3 pupils in interactive activities about Spanish greetings, numbers, pets and Christmas. Such has the success been that those primary schools have already invited them to run similar activities in the new year and other Saracens pupils are very keen to join the club in January.

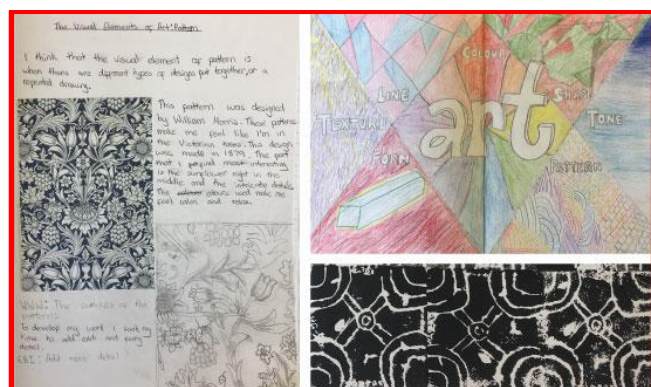
Miss Bonilla



Computer Science

Pupils have been learning about e-safety and Google sheets in this first term at Saracens High School. Over the last 10 years social media has taken on a life of its own. It has become part of most people's daily lives. whether we like it or not. Therefore, knowing how to keep yourself safe online is fundamental.

Miss Frankham



Art & Design

During our first term at Saracens High School pupils have been learning about the visual elements of art. The visual elements are fundamental to art and are the parts used to make a piece of artwork. With this understanding, pupils are able to deconstruct artwork and have an understanding of how to create their own.

Miss Frankham

Respect, Encouragement and Discipline

Success in life is not only based on your school examination results. These are important as they represent evidence of your ability to learn. Your results tell employers that you will be able to learn and grasp new concepts related to your job. So the reason for going to school is to learn how to learn. Our value, 'discipline', is essential if we are to master learning anything.

So how do we train our mind to become disciplined? Simply by repetition, achieving incremental targets, and benefiting from the 'chocolate effect'. Any time you achieve a target, the brain releases a feel good chemical, then you want to work harder to feel it again.

Mrs Halai & Ms Latif

World Cycling Championships – December 2018



When : Friday 14th December

Where : Lee Valley Velo Park, QE Olympic Stadium

Who when: Tokky (me), Eddie, Adam, Jack, Rezwan, Ela, Olivia, Yusra and Jasmine
Mr Mitman and Mr Clackett took us in the school minibus

What we did/saw: When I arrived, the first thing I saw was the massive track. In the middle of the track was a space for the competitors to train or relax. The second thing I noticed was the upbeat crowd. It was a jubilant atmosphere and everyone was very supportive.

We had a great time and the day made us realise how important it is to watch a variety of different sports – I would recommend it to anyone.

Tokky - Trenchard

English

This term, during English lessons at Saracens High School, Year 7 pupils have: studied autobiographies and biographies; learnt to read actively; been making inferences whilst writing PEE paragraphs; and they have also looked at advertisements.

At the very beginning of the year, we looked at how to read actively. Active reading is about being more actively involved with books, when reading them! We focused on strategies to help us read actively, such as: highlighting texts; looking up words we do not understand; and summarising what we have read.

Additionally, we have been practicing making inferences from texts. An inference is working out what isn't directly said by the writer. Instead, you are looking for the deeper meaning of the extract/text. For example, if an author has written "she went silent," an inference could be that this character is angry or even upset. Indeed, inferences are particularly useful when understanding why writers have written texts and what messages they are trying to communicate to their readers.

Whilst writing our own biographical pieces, we looked at using a variety of sentence types (simple, compound and complex). It is important for our writing to include different sentences to ensure our readers remain interested in the text and to enable us to craft our work better. We even learnt how to use simple and complex sentences for effect!

Currently, are looking at advertisements. It is a very interesting topic and we have gone from analysing adverts to using persuasive language ourselves and creating our own adverts. At the moment, we are creating an advert to attract our pupils and staff to the Saracens' Year 7 Bake Sale, which is being held on Tuesday 18th December at lunchtime. I really cannot wait to see what delicious delights the bake sale will have!

I hope you found this article very interesting about what we have learnt so far at Saracens High School. We have many more topics to come and I really am excited to be studying poetry as well as The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas after the Christmas break!

Maddie - Alphonsi

English - Library

English Reading

With the library finally completed after half-term, we were able to properly launch Accelerated Reader, a software that tests the pupils after they have finished reading a book. The pupils' response was and still is overwhelming with a very high amount of them scoring a 100% on the books they have read. Each time a pupil gets a 100% they receive a certificate signed by Dr Stevens and Miss Chilton to acknowledge their effort and they on top of that receive 10 merits!!!

The library is still in its early days and after the Christmas break we will receive more books to cater to the demand and we will also get a brand new state of the art library system with a bar-code reader!

In response to us getting the software I would like to ask if any pupils would like to help me run the library (break time, lunch time and Learning Group time). The role would consist of ensuring the library stays ordered and tidy; scanning books being borrowed and books being returned; ensuring pupils respect the school's values when in the library.

If you would like to help me, could you please write to me explaining bit why you would like to do it and also why you should be given this responsibility.

Have a great break!

Mr Guez

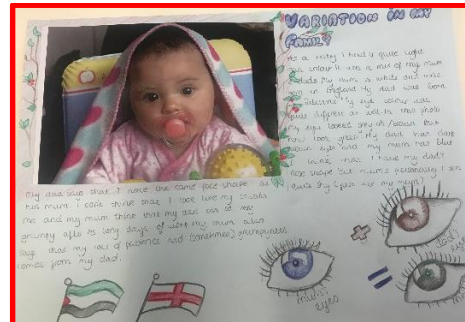
Science

This term at Saracens we focussed on 'science of US' our pupils explored their own features and identified which were 'inherited' or due to their 'environment'. They learnt and applied new terminology such as genes and DNA to explain the differences between each individual.

Each pupil brought in pictures of their families and friends to highlight similarities and differences between them. This was a celebration of differences within science and holds close to the ethos of being respectful to each other.

The multitude of faiths and backgrounds was also commemorated and each student learnt more about their peers through this learning journey.

Here is an example of the products produced by a pupil at Saracens:



Ms Latif

Music

Music in Saracens started in the summer when I had to come in and sort the room out trying to make it feel like an actual music room! Since then, I have absolutely loved teaching Music to all of you! We started the year learning how to play on Djembes with some extremely talented groups. We then moved on onto keyboards, which I hope many of you enjoyed learning. Every pupil showed some extremely impressive progress and I was thrilled seeing most of you nurturing a love for playing keyboards.

Break and lunch times are because I love seeing so many pupils coming in the room to play on the pianos, try the guitars and electric guitars. This creates a nice and enjoyable musical atmosphere!

After the holidays, we will all start learning how to read chords charts and tabs using ukulele to prepare ourselves for the guitar unit in Year 8.

Have a well deserved break and do not forget to listen to Music or play if you can!!

My song of the moment (a bit old however): Kambua by Bonga

Mr Guez

Enrichment

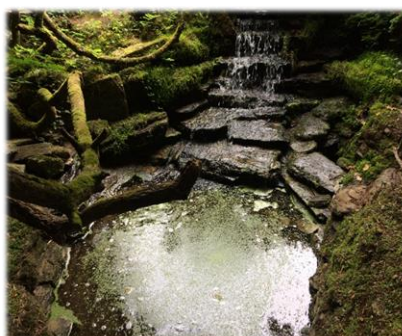
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School 7.45 to 8.15am		Debating Club Mrs Halai / Mr Islam	Science Practical Skills Mr Islam / Mrs Latif		
Lunchtime		Film Club Miss Chilton	Podcast Club Mr Gibbons		
After School: 3.30 to 4.30pm	Choir Mr Guez	Staff Meetings	Young Language Leaders Mrs Bonilla	Guitar Club Mr Guez	Orchestra Mr Guez (3.10 to 4.10pm)
	Global Club Miss Morphitis	Dance Saracens Sports Foundation	Public Speaking Club Miss Style	Rugby Mr Mitman (Allianz Park)	Mathletes Miss Style (3.10 to 4.10pm)
	Creative Club Miss Frankham				

Global Club

The pupils in Global Club have been working hard this half term entering two national competitions and creating interactive displays. Firstly, we created our sea creatures out of plastic and rubbish, which have been entered into the 'Oceans are not rubbish' competition. You can see our shark, octopus, squid and turtles, displayed below:



We have also entered some of our photographs into the University of Birmingham Young Geographers' Photography Competition 2018. Below are two of our entries on the theme of 'Geography in my life'.



Extra-curricular activities

What the students say;

Rugby



Every Thursdays at 3.30pm, Mr Mitman takes me and some fellow pupils to Rugby Club, which is held at Allianz Park. We learn about movement and space as well as different kinds of dodges. In addition, we have a lot of fun for we all work as a team and do activities together. We learn about a variety of things which helps us to build on our rugby playing. Every week, we get closer to becoming a rugby player. It's a lot of fun but it also takes a lot of hard work. Discipline, hard work, honest and humility. Four values to succeed. Four values to be part of Saracens and our family!

Yusra - Rimla

Mathletes

I enjoy Maths because of the range and variety of units we are taught. My favourite thing we've done in Maths is Bar Models. They can help pupils with any maths problem they have!

By Zulekha - Johnson



Mathletes is a place where pupils, who enjoy challenging Maths, learn complex subjects like algebra. As being a member myself, I know that the subjects are extremely hard. On the first week we learnt about the dozenal society who believe the world shouldn't work in base 10 and that we should work in base 12 (which is complicated!). Then we tried to see if fractions were easier in the dozenal system. The week after that we tried to prove why area of a trapezium is found using the formula $h(a+b)/2$. On the fourth week of mathletes we found out about defies which were my favourite - they help higher level thinking and creativity in maths.

Mustafa - Alphonsi

Creative Club

A big thank you to Creative Club for creating the first ever Saracens High School Christmas card. They have done a beautiful job and many people have already commented on the design. Merry Christmas.

Miss Frankham



Guitar Club

With a very dedicated and lovely group of pupils we started learning together how to play the guitar after one term after we know how to play Bob Dylan's Knocking on Heaven's Door and also Jingle Bells and Silent Night!!
Everyone is welcome to join us in 2019 to learn a new song together!

Orchestra

Every Friday, pupils come to practice their chosen instruments or learn a new one like violin. It is a relaxed and music loving club that is a perfect way to end a hard week of work!

Mr Guez