



SAGE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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SEPTEMBER 2020 - WEEK 8TH - 11TH

"Tell me and I forget, Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."

Benjamin Franklin

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MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL HEAD

Dear Families and SAGE COLLEGE Community,

After the first week of school and having been away for nearly seven months, today I want to look back and consider how we want to remember this time. Later, in the near future, we'll ask, "where were you when the coronavirus came?" Some of us will remember the time as a family time, sometimes calm and many others hectic and stressed. Another of us will remember the anxiety and fear as numbers rose and we wondered about our loved ones far away. People have always turned to humor for relief and comfort when times are hard and life is disrupted. We may remember what we weren't allowed to do, how our lives became smaller. We can choose to experience this as loss or we can see it in terms of social responsibility and citizenship. Hard times have a way of putting life into perspective. They highlight our values and beliefs and test us to live up to them.

At Sage College this week the school has been a hive of creativity and the current crisis of the coronavirus brought interesting discussions and awareness amongst our students, where different solutions and good ideas for prevention came across in different lessons. Everyone has been committed and focussed at work as if seeing each other and learning together was a part of our existence, like eating or breathing. I would like to thank all members of the Sage College team for their impressively hard work over the last week, providing guidance and supporting us with the strict safety protocols. Our new teachers have merged quickly into the "Sage life" and we are delighted to have them as part of our team.

And finally a big thank you to the families for supporting our efforts to give all our children the best possible learning experience in such trying times even when you had to put you own commitments to one side. We are very proud of our Sage College community.

by Mr Wickham

EARLY YEARS NEWS

As Early Years Coordinator, I would firstly like to welcome you to our wonderful EYFS unit here at Sage College. Although these are difficult times, this week has shown that even Little Ducklings, Friendly Frogs and Busy Bees can be resilient and adapt to new routines.

As I walk through our three beautiful Early Years classrooms, that are just as bright and colourful as ever, I feel hopeful that this year will be just as exciting and stimulating as ever for our children, despite the new regulations. I also wish to extend my gratitude to you all for your support in regard to respecting our new routines, protocols and procedures.

Ms Dower

Mini News!!

Early Years has had a truly great first week back! All teachers, plus our incredible support staff have been amazed by how quickly the little sagers have settled-in, and how quickly they have adapted to the new rules and routines that we have had to put in place.

Busy Bees are showing to be exceptional **Early Years Role Models** as the biggest children in the unit: they are washing their hands before and after activities and showing great maturity by wearing their masks as they travel around the school during transition times.



It is so important that, as a whole school, we continue to uphold the strict regulations in this 'New Normal' while also making sure we provide the children with **stimulating and creative activities**. Each class looks forward to sharing their first Parent Topic Web with you next week on our theme 'All About Me'.





PRIMARY NEWS



I would like to personally say congratulations to all the members of our school community on their fantastic start back to school. We have been incredibly proud of each and everyone of our students for their composure and superb ability to adjust to the new procedures in the school. It has been wonderful to see everyone back in their face to face classes after such a long time. I can see that both students and teachers have missed this time together and it is great to see daily lessons and activities in full flight. Thank you to everyone for your continued support in making our school and the learning of our children such a great success.

Ms Sawyer



The energy and enthusiasm for learning has been clearly evident in all our students in their first few days back at school. Everyone has been adjusting to the new way we do things in the school. For example, learning how to communicate with a mask, projecting our voice, showing emotion through changing tones and even using our eyes and hand gestures to express ourselves.

Children have also been very inventive with how to play in the playground, creating **imaginative games** or even playing old favourites which do not involve resources, such as "Simon Says".





MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

After a long time without their teachers and friends, the students enthusiastically arrived for their first day of school. They were fantastic, cooperating with the measures put in place by the school and the authorities. We all met in the park in front of the school, where we lined up in our year and tutor groups. Students were led to their collection areas, in their co-existent groups, and then to the classrooms. We are so pleased to see them and would like to once again welcome every child into our community and school.

Mr Connor



Students in the school have naturally started the learning processes. For example: in Biology we have started to dissect the processes by which the water is transported around in plants and the mechanisms needed to take the water up 50 meters or more. Year 7 science are starting with the ideas of atoms, particles and states of matter to appreciate what the world around us is made of.



We are also pleased that in key stage 3 the art classes have commenced. They are working on the colour wheel and then will progress onto portraits.

We are looking forward to the creativity and enthusiasm of the students in the weeks coming up.

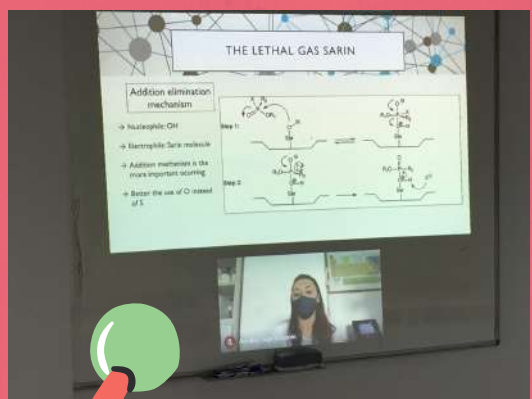


HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Our Key Stage 5 students showed a great attitude towards the new academic year. This is reflected in their behavior and respect for the rules, mainly those included in the COVID protocol. We do know that some of the measures are not easy at all to be followed, especially after six months without attending the school physically. However, all of them have shown an excellent frame of mind, and we feel really proud of them. Each day, they are more used to following the different rules, and this will be beneficial for all of us: students, staff and families.

Mr Loto

Nothing better to learn than applying the knowledge to real life situations to make it significant for the students.



Our Year 13 Chemistry students completed a project in which they analysed the effects of nerve gases on the organism, like the gases used during the Sirian conflict. They showed their results in a presentation. Due to the COVID measures, the students showed their presentation by using one of our online platforms: Google Suite (Google Classroom and Google Meet).



Workshops, Bachillerato Sage, and other activities will start in the coming days and weeks.

Our intention and compromise is to give the students the opportunity to **enrich their curriculum** that will opens the doors to their future.



Tips from our school psychologist

Make a "things to bring to school" checklist and put it up near your bag case, you will not forget anything!

Establish a new greet with your friends.

If you are feeling uncomfortable or worried, talk to your schoolmates or teachers, you will find a solution together!



Follow the same steps to prepare your school day every morning and you will not be in a hurry!

Stop wondering and worrying about things you can't change and focus on what depends on you.

Try to make your class-place a comfortable and pleasant space to feel secure.

MEET OUR STAFF

THIS WEEK... **MR WICKHAM**

ABOUT ME...



Hello SAGE COLLEGE ! You may have seen me around the campus wearing a suit and tie but I have to say that I haven't always dressed in that way. I was a PE teacher (not as good as Mr Mañanas or Mr Ambrose!) for almost 15 years at an International School in Madrid before reaching Sage College. I was born in the UK but I grew up in Spain where I became a FC Barcelona fan. I had always wanted to be a doctor and finally ended up studying Sports Sciences and Education and became a PE Teacher. I also studied music for many years and taught music in school too. My main instrument is percussion, specially drums, but I also enjoy playing piano, guitar and bass. This is my first year at Sage College and although it is being an awkward start with the pandemic measures, I am enjoying every minute I spend with Sage College students, staff and families.

HOBBIES AND PASSIONS...

I have many passions! My main passion is spending time with my family, my wife Laura, and my two children: Nico and Juliet, who are in Year 1 and Pre-Nursery. You may have seen them around the school. My other two passions are music and sports. I played basketball for my university and then professionally for two years, before I broke my knee and had to quit. That made me think about my future and become a teacher, which is my third passion!

Don't forget to follow us!



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