



## Parent Bulletin

7th March 2025

The past two weeks have been incredibly busy even by Vyners standards. I was delighted to receive the final version of our Ofsted Report ([click here](#)) within the past 24 hours and this report has confirmed that the school has been able to maintain the standards that were achieved during the section 5 inspection in 2019; in short, we remain outstanding in all four of the sub-categories and continue to improve in the sixth form. As noted in my letter to parents and carers ([click here](#)) this is the best possible outcome that we could have achieved from an ungraded inspection, which is for schools whose previous inspection was after 2015 and were graded as 'Outstanding' during that inspection. As a reminder, there is no longer an overall single word judgement for schools as a result of an inspection.

I do hope that parents and carers are able to enjoy reading this inspection report and also are able to take pride in the knowledge that the outcome is due to the commitment of the entire community. As stated, this does not mean that the school is perfect. However, we do believe that this report provides us with the firm foundations to move forward to becoming an even stronger organisation for our families than we have previously achieved.

There have been some key themed activities that our students have engaged over these weeks. I would like to thank both the English and modern foreign language department teams for organising the excellent world book day and languages week activities which were thoroughly enjoyed by all. The languages week represents another excellent joint activity that has taken place with the Vanguard Learning Trust (VLT), on this occasion, between the departments at Vyners and Ruislip High School.

This week has also been the Equalities Week within the Trust and I would like to thank Ms Ashe, Deputy Safeguarding Lead for coordinating the Vyners events and leading this week's assemblies. The theme this year is **empathy** and particularly focused on the use of inclusive language rather than some of the language that we know can happen within our community that excludes some groups of children and adults. This type of language where certain behaviours are linked to a sex, race, disability or sexuality e.g. '*run like a girl*' is damaging and is something that we are working to remove from our community. It is also language that can be directed within friendship groups and often causes discomfort or embarrassment regardless of intent. I hope that we can all work as a community to eradicate these harmful stereotypes.

Last week, we said farewell to our longest serving member of staff, Manny Kalsi, who finished with us on Friday after nearly thirty one years of service. Manny was the admissions officer at the school and we estimate that, during her time, she would have overseen the admission of nearly 6000 children into Year 7. Manny has chosen to retire and will be spending more time with her family, with a fourth grandchild on the way. We wish Manny a long and very happy retirement and thank her for her wonderful years serving the school community.

There have also been a number of sporting successes of late and I would like to warmly congratulate all of our students who continue to represent the school with such distinction. I will give a special mention to our Year 7 netball teams for their successes in the VLT netball competition on Wednesday, winning both the girls and mixed competitions. It was a fantastic

achievement and gave me a wonderful end to the day as Miss Hawes brought the students to my office after the event to share their success with me.

Finally this week, I would like to thank our Director of Music, Mr Cullum, for sharing this item from the website and blog of Dame Judith Weir ([click here](#)), formerly Master of the King's Music. It is always heartwarming to read such positivity about the school community, particularly when the feedback received is from someone who has served our royal family with such distinction.

Wishing all of our families a lovely weekend.

**Gary Mullings, Headteacher**

## Migration to ParentPay - important information for parents

I am pleased to report that we have now set up the ParentPay platform and created accounts for every student. To activate your son / daughter's account, you need a unique user name and registration code.

This information has now been emailed to the email address we hold for the PRIMARY CONTACT held in school. Please can I ask parents / carers to check their email inboxes as a matter of urgency. If you cannot find the message, please check your spam folder before coming back to us.

Setting up your account is very straightforward, please follow the instructions in the email. If your child is a regular canteen user, please add money to this account, ready for migration on Monday 17th March 2025. **Please note: money can only be added from Saturday morning.**

If you already have a ParentPay account (maybe for a sibling in another school), it is important that you DO NOT create a new account for yourself, but add this new child to your existing account.

If you have more than one child at Vyners school, but DO NOT have an existing parent pay account, please create your new account for your eldest child, then 'add children' for younger ones.

ParentPay have produced a help guide for new registrations please [click here](#). A copy of the video has already been added to the catering page of the school website [click here](#). Please [click here](#) for an introduction to online payments booklet.

It is really important that all children have canteen money in their ParentPay account ready for the swap over on Monday 17th March. If your child is a regular canteen user, please make sure you have registered their account in good time.

Parents should ask Squidcard directly to be refunded any more left on their account after 17th March. Refunds appear to be being processed swiftly

Thank you for your cooperation and support

**Miss Williams, Business Manager**

## 'Nut Free' School / Single Use Plastic Bottles

Can I remind all parents / carers that we are a 'nut free school'. Some students in our community have a severe allergy to nuts and it is very important that any products brought in from home are nut free. For some students, even being in the vicinity of such products is enough to trigger a serious reaction.

Can I also repeat the request to NOT send your child in with single use plastic bottles. These are being used by some students to damage and block the toilet facilities around the school. A quality, reusable bottle, clearly marked with your child's name is both better for the environment and reduces the likelihood of damage to the school site. Thank you for your cooperation

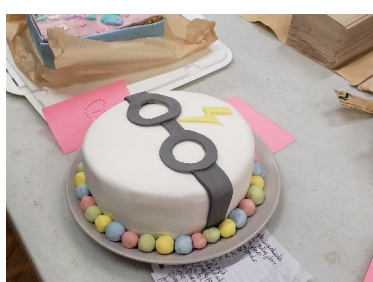
**Miss Williams, Business Manager**

## World Book Day Celebrations 2025

As part of Vyners' World Book Day celebrations this year, various activities took place to inspire and engage students in the joy of reading. Jennifer Killick the author of the award-winning Dread Wood series, the Crater Lake series, and the Alex Sparrow series. delivered an inspiring creative writing presentation to our Year 7 students. Jennifer's visit was a wonderful celebration of the written word where she shared her expertise and tips on how to write a great story to a captivated audience!



From creative costumes to a Scavenger Hunt and a 'Bake Off' competition, students were involved in a host of exciting events.



The Scavenger Hunt involved students hunting for signs that staff had caught the 'World Book Day Bug', transforming themselves into characters from some of our most beloved stories. Students had to look out for characters or items that staff were wearing and once they had spotted a clue, wrote down either the character or book they came from in order to gain a point. Once they had written down as many literary finds as possible, they submitted their sheets to their English Teacher. Winners of the Scavenger Hunt for the most literary finds will be awarded certificates next week!

Students and parents/carers were also invited to show off their baking skills by baking World Book Day themed cakes! Judging and certificate awards were handed out by our headteacher, Mr Mullings. Once the winners had been chosen, the cakes then went on sale with all proceeds going to The World Book Day Charity. Once again, the 'Bake Off' was a huge success and there was certainly a celebratory atmosphere in the hall!

Well done to the much-deserved winners who were chosen from the following categories:

Most Delicious – Poppy Whicker 7P and Zarifa Dryden 7G

Most Creative – Leona Zebari 7J

Most Wacky – Marli Pistorius 11J

Overall Winner - Cooking / baking book – Marli Pistorius 11J



Of course, the joy of reading doesn't end with World Book Day. Alongside our weekly Drop Everything and Read, we believe at Vyners that every day is an opportunity to celebrate the power and magic of literature, to explore new ideas, and to challenge ourselves to think in new ways. Whether we are sharing a story with a friend, exploring a new genre, or simply getting lost in a great book, reading is a lifelong journey that can often take us to places we never imagined.

I hope that this year's World Book Day celebrations have inspired our students to continue that journey, and to make every day a celebration of the written word.

**Ms Goode, Assistant Subject Leader, English**

## Belazu Cooking Masterclass

On Wednesday 26th February, twenty of our students participated in a Fresh Enterprise 'School Food Matters' cooking masterclass in the food department. Working with representatives from *Belazu*, providers of chef-grade ingredients, students were able to sample their existing products with consideration of the flavour combinations, cultural influences, texture and aesthetics. They were then provided with a wide array of ingredients to blend and combine in order to create their own, original product. A process of experimentation, testing and refining their ideas followed. The session concluded with the different groups presenting their products and sampling each other's creations, before a winning product was selected.

Congratulations to the winning group of Sanetha Athwal, Maddie Marshall and Ava McGettigan, whose pasta will now move on to the next round of this national competition and have the chance of their product being rolled out to supermarkets up and down the country!

The experience provided a valuable insight into the world of product development and working in a test kitchen. It also provided the opportunity to try different ingredients and flavours from around the world. All participants will attend a marketing workshop in the near future to broaden their understanding of how marketing and advertising can be used to promote products and increase sales.

Thank you to all who participated for your engagement and enthusiasm.



**Mr Welch and Mrs Davies, Design & Technology Department**

## Year 10 Maths Feast – Vyners School Secures 5th Place!

Four students: Nyla Singh, Adam Nadhmi, Dylan Lewis and Nathan Griffiths represented Vyners School at the Year 10 Maths Feast in Hillingdon, accompanied by Maths teacher Mr. Rahme.

Maths Feast is an exciting and educational challenge designed for Year 10 students. It tests their problem-solving and teamwork skills and requires various strategies for success. The event aims to develop students' mathematical reasoning, communication, and collaborative abilities through engaging and recreational maths activities.

This year marked Vyners School's debut in the Year 10 Maths Feast, a competition that has been running in Hillingdon for at least three years. Despite being newcomers, our students competed against twenty-one teams and secured an impressive fifth place. Their exceptional performance highlighted their potential and the quality of education at Vyners.

Mr Rahme commended the students for their strong mathematical knowledge, which they applied to reason through and solve real-life problems. He praised their exemplary behaviour, inspiring attitude, and resilience throughout the competition.

The participants shared their thoughts on the experience:

- Nathan: "It was a fun experience, and I think we did well."
- Dylan: "Excellent experience!"
- Nyla: "It was a fun experience, and we worked well together as a team."
- Adam: "It was a great experience, and we got to apply our maths skills to new situations. I would love to go again!"

**Mr Rahme, Teacher of Maths**

## Sports Update

### Indoor Athletics

The Year 8 girls secured Gold! The team of 6 competed this week in the West London indoor athletics finals competing against schools from Ealing and Hounslow. The girls performed extremely well coming out victors by 1 point over rivals Ealing Fields.

A fantastic achievement! Well done; Charlotte, Libby, Macey, Lilly, Freya and Elsie

**Mr Hall, Subject Leader, PE**



### VLT Netball Tournament

The year 7 girls took part in the VLT netball tournament on Wednesday. We had two teams entered and played all schools within the Trust. Both teams took home the overall win! Well done to all involved.



**Miss Hawes, PE Department**

## VLT Staff Vacancies

Please click [here](#) for a list of support staff vacancies across the VLT sites.

## Spring Term Key Dates

Tuesday 11th March	Year 9 Parents Evening (online), 4.30pm to 7.00pm
Thursday 20th March	Year 12 Parents Evening (online), 4.30pm to 7.00pm
Friday 21st March	Year 8 and Year 9 options deadline
Friday 21st March	Friends of Vyners Quiz Night

**Friday 4th April**                      **Term ends (3pm finish)**

## Summer Term Key Dates

**Tuesday 22nd April**                      **Term starts**

Tuesday 29th April	Year 10 Parents Evening (online), 4.30pm to 7.00pm
<b>Monday 5th May</b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
Friday 9th May	Friends of Vyners Quiz Night
Thursday 15th May	Year 8 Parents Evening (online), 4.30pm to 7.00pm

**26th - 30th May**                      **Half Term**

Thursday 5th June	Year 7 Parents Evening (online), 4.30pm to 7.00pm
<b>Friday 27th June</b>	<b>Staff Development Day (students not in school)</b>

**Friday 18th July**                      **Terms ends (12.20pm finish)**