

# Weekly Vyne Bulletin

## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER Friday 8 February 2019

The weather over the past seven days seems to have been as unpredictable as ever. The snow that we experienced last Friday made things very difficult at the school as our body of staff travel from far and wide to be here each day, and as was the case last year the pattern of snow was very uneven across the region. Staff who travelled from areas such as Twickenham experienced very little snow in their locality (but were challenged by the conditions on Warren Road), whilst others in areas such as High Wycombe struggled to move their cars from their driveways. Fortunately, we were able to open but going forward we will look at each occurrence on a case-by-case basis, which may mean closure if we feel that the school site is unsafe or that we cannot adequately staff the curriculum on any given day. We will also take a view on partial closures (ie only open the school to specific year groups in the event of too few staff) and late starts to ensure that both staff and students have adequate time to arrive on site safely. Thank you to all staff and students who braved the conditions and made the day a successful one. We will keep a close eye on the coming forecasts and will update families regarding potential issues in good time.

I am always delighted when parents and carers have the opportunity to visit the school and it has been wonderful to have had the opportunity to speak to so many of you this week during the Year 8 into 9 Options Information evening and the Year 11 Parents evening. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the Year 9 into 10 Options evening last week as I was speaking to a group of prospective Headteachers in Bethnal Green about my experience of the 'First 100 Days in Headship!'. Thank you to all parents and carers who attended these evenings. I hope that in each case you found them to be informative and that the information that was shared with you will assist you in helping your child either to make informed decisions about their options choices or, if your child is in Year 11, support them through the coming months as they prepare for their GCSE examinations. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of my staff who attended these evenings – we are very fortunate to have such a good team of staff who are so committed to the interests of our students.

Our Head Boy and Head Girl, Dylan and

Edith were joined by Deputy Head Girl, Sophie Gorse on Thursday morning as they presented an assembly to Year 12 students about the application process for the Lead Student positions. We have decided this year to continue with an 'Apprentice' style process, similar to that of the BBC TV series fronted by Lord Sugar where candidates undertake a series of tasks with the objective of demonstrating their business acumen and ultimately winning the £250,000 business investment as well as the support of Lord Sugar himself. Our process will differ in as much as there will be no elimination during the tasks as we wish to give each candidate every opportunity to demonstrate their leadership skills. Three group tasks will be followed by an assembly presentation to the Sixth Form, after which the final group of students will be selected for a staff vote and the final interview panel. In recent years we have seen an increasing number of students who have sought the 'top jobs' and I am hoping that this year will be no different. Dylan and Edith have sent out a Google form, which students need to complete if they wish to participate. The deadline for applications is Monday 25 February at 3.00pm. I very much look forward to meeting up with the candidates at the launch event.

I am delighted to be able to announce the winner of the January Jack Petchey Achievement Award is Rana Singh (9C) for volunteering. Rana has helped to expand and manage the RPG (Role-playing games) club which was opened only last year and due to his help is growing and expanding at a great pace with new players coming every few weeks. He has therefore decided to donate his £250 prize towards buying more games, such as Dungeons and Dragons and Warhammer, to enhance the experience for members of the club. RPG Club takes place in room 037 on Tuesdays after school. Well done, Rana!

**Gary Mullings**  
Headteacher

## Headteacher's Commendations

### **House**

8F Chloe Rooney  
9C Rana Singh

### **Work Related Learning Day**

8G Mahnoor Khan, Yousef Saidam, Adam Shah, Nabil Taitt, William Parker,

### **Careers Fayre**

10F, Thenuja Arullingham  
10W, Amy Ginn, Benjamin Surguy

### **Mathematics**

11F Kemal Mehmed

### **RE**

9G, Fraser Brannigan, Hannah Maylor,  
9H Aaliyah Brown, Ryan Hodgkinson 9W

### **Work Related Learning Day**

8G, Eddie Sims, Sam Sullivan, Ayaan Warsame, Pip Waterhouse, Simmeicia Weekes-Bousquet

## Canteen Price Increase

The school has approved a 5% price increase in the school canteen from Monday 25th February. This is the first increase in 18 months and is needed to meet the costs of higher food costs, and statutory increases to the national minimum wage. The free school meal price of £2.10 remains unchanged and students will continue to be able to buy a plated hot meal and pudding for this price.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE - Year to date as of 1 February 2019

### **BEST TUTORIAL**

Year 7 - 7W - 97.32%  
Year 8 - 8F - 95.92%  
Year 9 - 9H - 96.35%  
Year 10 - 10F - 95.58%  
Year 11 - 11M - 92.52%  
Year 12 - 12M - 95.95%  
Year 13 - 13W - 88.42%

### **BEST YEAR GROUP**

Year 7 - 96.01%  
Year 8 - 95.24%  
Year 9 - 94.12%  
Year 10 - 94.39%  
Year 11 - 93.87%  
Year 12 - 94.44%  
Year 13 - 85.46%

