

Weekly Vyne Bulletin

Newsletter 13th March 2020

Our annual House Music Festival took place last Friday, 6th of March. Students from each of the eight school houses were invited to participate, perform and celebrate their love of music for an audience of the Year 7 students. Each house was required to perform one solo performance and one group performance. It really allowed some hidden talents of the school to shine through. As ever, our Sixth-form House Captains did a fantastic job in coaching and mentoring the younger students in their performances. Throughout the event, which was themed around the music of the 1990s, the students performed an eclectic range of styles from Jazz piano to grunge rock, Mariah Carey to the Backstreet Boys. The atmosphere in the room was electric and it was wonderful to see so many of the students smiling, cheering and supporting each other. Mr Cullum and Mrs Coyle judged the event and the eventual winners were John Miles House who performed a unique mashup of various 90s songs. All students deserve to feel very proud of the successful event.

We have had some outstanding performances from our football teams this year with the boys' teams in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 progressing through the group stages of the borough competitions with each qualifying for the borough semi-finals. Between the 5 year groups, Vyners have only lost one game out of fifteen. Added to this, the year 7 squad have gone one step further, qualifying for the Middlesex Cup final. This is a cup competition involving over 60 schools, so to qualify for the final is a real achievement. The final will be played against either Highgate School or Finchley Catholic High School, with the date to be confirmed. Congratulations to all of the students and staff involved.

I would also like to congratulate three students who each received a Vanguard Learning Trust Award for the spring term. Panagiotis Giannouloupoulos (7G) received the key stage 3 award due to the fact that he has made an exceptional start to his Vyners Learning Journey and continues to excel in a number of areas including being inducted into the Vyners Swing Band at such an early stage. Kiera Harvey (10W) has been a successful student leader since she joined the school. She is currently focusing on shaping the strategy to promote tolerance for diversity within the wider community and Emma-Louise Jattan (13W) receives the award for key stage 5. Emma-Louise is one of our Deputy Head Girls and during her time in the Sixth Form she has raised several hundreds of pounds for a variety of charities including Cancer Research UK. My congratulations to all three students for their well-deserved awards and thank to our Executive Headteacher, Dr Lecky for taking the time to visit Vyners to present the awards.

ICTS Search Dogs

On Thursday, we received our first visit from the ICTS search dogs team. The team consisted of two dog handlers, a retired Police Officer and three search dogs. The team led a series of excellent assemblies for the whole

school before conducting a thorough screening process of all students and sweep of the school grounds. Although, I cannot give specific feedback about the outcome of the activity I am pleased to be able to report that the team successfully met our objectives and that we will continue to use ICTS at random to ensure that the school is a drug free environment.

Coronavirus Update

Firstly, I would like to thank Miss Holt and Mr Brooks for leading excellent assemblies about the Coronavirus and specifically Covid-19 this week. The objectives of the assemblies were to ensure that all members of the school community are basing their decisions and actions on facts rather than myths and half-truths and of equal importance the assemblies gave us the opportunity to reiterate how students should act to protect themselves as well as other members of the community. As a school, we continue to rely heavily on advice from the Department for Education (DfE), Public Health England and the NHS with regards to further steps that may be required to safeguard the community and minimise the spread of the virus. You may be aware that there is a possibility of cancellation of events and even school closures in the relatively near future. As I am writing this item I have become aware that schools, colleges and Universities in Ireland have been closed until March 29 at the earliest. This is currently not the case in the UK; however, the government have announced that overseas school trips should now not go ahead. I will be seeking clarification about school trips and visits from the DfE today and will write to those affected more fully regarding the implications next week. Inevitably, I am sure that we will have to cancel or postpone a number of our planned activities including those related to the 60th Anniversary. If it were to occur, a full school closure would probably be as part of the delay phase if the Government decides that it is necessary to use this strategy to slow down the outbreak and not necessarily because of a positive test at any given school. If this does occur we will contact parents by text, email and via the school website. Finally, we are well aware of the damaging potential of rumours relating to this situation and therefore will notify parents as soon as we are able to if a member of our community, or a close contact of one of our community, tests positive, and explain what action we have been told to take by Public Health England. We ask that parents/carers follow the advice that has been issued by Public Health England and the NHS. This is readily available via the following links:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>
<http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Admissions Consultation

Later today I will be writing to all parents and carers with regard to the outcome of the admissions consultation. In addition, the letter along with the updated Admissions Policy for September 2021 will be made available from today on the school website in the Admissions Section. I would again like to thank all parents and other stakeholders for their feedback in relation to this important decision.

Gary Mullings, Headteacher

HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATION

Work Related Learning Day 8H

Jack Saunders, Harry Stone, Liam Thomas, Ellie Woodward.

English

Jorja Hockley 8W, Leona Betts 8F

House Music Event 7J

Ross Bell, Rosie Taylor, Aaliyah Alhassan, Emma Slatford.

Drama

Muhammed Butt 7P

YEAR 9 VACCINATIONS

Just to remind parents/carers that the 3-in-1 Teenage Booster and Meningitis ACWY vaccinations will be taking place on MONDAY 16TH MARCH 2020. Please make sure that your child wears a short sleeve shirt, brings a bottle of water and a sugary snack.

Parent Workshop: How to get a grade 4/5 in Foundation GCSE Maths

Wednesday 18th March 2020, 4pm - 5.30pm in the School Hall

Year 11 foundation students and parents/carers
 The aims of this workshop are to:

1. Familiarise parents with the format of the exam paper.
2. Enable parents to better support their child by giving strategies for practise and revision.
3. Guide students and parents through examination questions.

To book a place on the workshop, please email Mrs Purtil at: upurtill@vynersschool.org.uk

Attendance News

BEST TUTORIAL FOR WEEK ENDING 6TH MARCH 2020

Year 7 - 7H - 99.33% and 99.33%
 Year 8 - 8W - 8C - 93.67%
 Year 9 - 9C - 96.45%
 Year 10 - 10M - 97.74%
 Year 11 - 11G - 98.13%
 Year 12 - 12C - 95.65%
 Year 13 - 13W - 96.84%

BEST YEAR GROUP FOR WEEK ENDING 6TH MARCH 2020

Year 7 - 97.14%
 Year 8 - 95.15%
 Year 9 - 94.95%
 Year 10 - 94.19%
 Year 11 - 95.09%
 Year 12 - 92.7%
 Year 13 - 89.43%

