Vyners School

Striving for Excellence

Year 7 Update 23/10/2026

Well done Year 7

We would like to extend our warmest congratulations to all of our Year 7 students on a fantastic first half term. Transitioning to secondary school is a major milestone, and they have settled in extremely well, quickly adapting to new routines and school life. We are immensely proud of their high levels of engagement and the dedicated effort they have shown across all their lessons and activities. We would like to make a special mention to congratulate the Headstart team and their coaches Mr Smith, Mr Harper and Mr McLeod for an excellent football win against the staff team this week. Keep up the brilliant work, Year 7, you have made a wonderful start, and we look forward to seeing all that you continue to achieve throughout the rest of the year!

Assemblies this week

This week's whole school assembly, led by Mrs Harvey, focused on understanding worries, learning how to recognise their early warning signs, and finding practical ways to manage them. We explored how worries often manifest both mentally, as "what-if" thoughts, and physically, through signals like a racing heart, a tight chest, or an unsettled stomach. To tackle these feelings, we discussed actionable strategies such as speaking openly with a trusted adult or friend, breaking overwhelming problems down into smaller, manageable steps, and using simple breathing techniques to ground ourselves in the moment.

Our Year 7 assembly celebrated Black History Month, centered on the theme "Honouring Our Community," highlighting the powerful impact of local figures who dedicate their lives to uplifting those around them. We focused on the inspiring story of Solomon Smith, founder of the Brixton Soup Kitchen, who saw a pressing need in his neighborhood and took direct action to help. By providing hot meals, essential supplies, and compassionate support to homeless and vulnerable individuals, Solomon demonstrated the true heart of community spirit. His life's work served as a moving reminder of how leadership, empathy, and grassroots action can transform lives and strengthen a whole community.

Bicycle safety

As part of our commitment to student well-being, we want to emphasise the critical importance of bike safety when traveling to and from school. Recently, staff have witnessed dangerous behavior from students cycling on surrounding roads. Staying safe on a bicycle requires complete awareness of cars and traffic at all times, including staying alert at junctions and avoiding risky maneuvers. Equally vital is always wearing a properly fitted helmet, which provides essential protection against severe injury in the event of an accident. We urge all students to take responsibility on the roads, ride cautiously, and ensure every journey to and from school is a safe one. If your child rides to school please do reinforce this message and also remind them that students are not permitted to ride their bikes inside of the school grounds.

Caring for our community this Halloween

As Halloween approaches, we ask all students who are celebrating to do so respectfully and with full consideration for our local community. While this time of year brings plenty of excitement, it is vital that we look after our elderly neighbors, who may find unannounced visitors or loud disruptions intimidating. We expect every student to represent our school proudly by ensuring they do not engage in any antisocial behavior, respect private property, and remain courteous at all times. By looking out for those around us and making thoughtful choices, we can help ensure Halloween is a safe and enjoyable evening for everyone.

Mobile phone spot check

We would like to remind parents and carers that Year 7 students are not permitted to bring smartphones into school. To ensure this policy is consistently upheld, we will be undertaking spot checks after the half term where pupils may be asked to walk through an airport-style metal detection arch or will be checked using a hand held wand, in line with the schools safeguarding procedures. Please note that if a student is found with a smartphone, it will be confiscated and a 60 minute detention will be issued. A parent or carer will be required to come to the school to collect the phone in person between 3 and 4 pm. It was emphasised to students why it is important to be smartphone free in our Year 7 assembly last week, exploring life before and after phones. We greatly appreciate your support and cooperation in maintaining a safe, focused, and screen-free environment for our pupils.

Assessments

From 6th-18th November students in Year 7 are likely to experience end of unit or topic assessments in their normal lessons with their class teachers for the first time. We do try to ensure that these are adequately spaced out so that students do not have too many assessments at once; this is a loose window of time open to teachers to plan and arrange assessments. The information gathered by teachers will form part of the information used to write the progress checks next half term. Each individual class teacher will communicate with their class about what to prepare and when the assessments will be via Google Classroom.

PE kits and pencil cases

We kindly ask all parents and carers to take a moment over the break to help ensure your child is fully prepared for learning. Please ensure that all PE kits are thoroughly washed and returned to school ready for their upcoming physical education lessons. Additionally, we ask that you check and replenish your child’s pencil case with essential everyday equipment, including pens, pencils, a ruler, glue stick and an eraser. Having the correct kit and supplies ensures students can fully engage in all their lessons without unnecessary disruptions.

Remembrance Day - RBL Poppy Appeal

Please note that after half term from Monday 2 November 2026, the sixth form executive team will be going round the school with the poppies to be purchased with a donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. We have enclosed below the QR code to enable anyone to make a donation online. If your child would like to purchase a poppy we will need cash payment as this goes directly into the charity boxes that we have with the poppies supplied by the RBL. They also provide us with a box of RBL wristbands, rulers, reflectable poppies if your child would like to purchase something other than a poppy.

Safeguarding Snapshot

This week's Safeguarding Snapshot includes information from the Metropolitan Police regarding mobile phone safety and the use of e-scooters/e-bicycles. Please [click here] for further information

Trust Update

Please [click here] for the Trust Update, October 2026.

Support Staff Vacancies

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

Autumn Term Key Dates

Autumn Term 2026	
Monday 26th to Friday 30th October – Half Term	
Wednesday 18th November	Governance Day
Thursday 19th November	Staff Conference (school closed to students)
Friday 20th November	Staff Conference (school closed to students)
Monday 23rd November	Occasional Day (school closed)
Friday 27th November	FOV Quiz Night

Tuesday 1st December	Year 11 & 13 Trial exams start
Thursday 3rd December	Senior Citizens' Christmas Party
Wednesday 9th December	VLT Christmas Concert
Tuesday 15th December	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 16th December	Vyners Christmas Concert
Friday 18th December	Year 7 reports issued
Friday 18th December	**End of Autumn Term (12.20pm finish)**