

9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Unfortunately, this week saw our first case of a member of staff testing positive for Covid-19. I am pleased to be able to report that the individual concerned is only experiencing mild symptoms. The positive test coincided with a number of other staff having to self-isolate as they awaited outcomes for Covid tests due to other close contacts, which meant that we were below capacity for staffing on Wednesday and unable to accommodate Sixth Form students on site. I would like to thank all of the students and their families for their understanding and for being so productive during their day away from the school site. Equally, I would like to thank all staff who have rallied round at the back end of the week to ensure that we were able to open to all year groups on Thursday and Friday.

I am sure that many parents, carers and students will have picked up on the news that Scottish National 5 exams, the equivalent of GCSEs for English and Welsh schools, have been cancelled for summer 2021 and have been replaced by coursework and teacher assessments. At this point, schools in England are yet to receive any confirmation regarding the plans for this summer's GCSE or A-level examinations. However, we do expect them to take place in some format even if they are a little later in the calendar than would usually be the case. Students should continue to work on the basis that exams will happen.

Thank you to all parents and carers who have engaged in our remote parental information evenings over the past fortnight. I do hope that they proved to be informative and provided a good context for the year ahead. The recordings from each of the evenings are available via the school website. A link to the page on the school's website can be found [here](#). The final two events will take place next week on Tuesday (Year 9) and Thursday (Year 10). The recordings for these events will be available from the same webpage early next week.

### **Black History Month**

We are delighted to be celebrating Black History Month this October. Black History Month is not about a focus on Black history for ONLY one month, but it is an opportunity to have a starting point for exploring, discovering and celebrating Black history, heritage and culture – both past and contemporary - from the incredible achievements and contributions, to the many untold stories, barriers to progress and the fight against the day-to-day reality of racism. The theme that has been chosen by staff and students is British Black History. We look forward to sharing our activities with you as we go through the Month.

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**Mr Gary Mullings BA (Hons)**  
Headteacher

### **World Mental Health Day - Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October marks World Mental Health Day for the World Health Organisation. The overall objective of the day is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilise efforts in support of mental health. We have chosen this year to again show our support for such an important cause by wearing something yellow and donating money to the YoungMinds 'Hello Yellow' campaign. Indeed looking after our wellbeing and, in particular, the wellbeing of our young people has never been more important right now. In an assembly last week, we asked students to mark this event and reflect on their own feelings of gratitude as just one clear step towards adding to their positive mental health. It has been lovely to hear from many students about what they are thankful for and, of course, to see so many of our staff and students wearing something yellow around the school today.

### **A Message from the Jaggar Family**

Due to Covid19 restrictions, it has been decided to limit attendance at the cremation service next Friday (16<sup>th</sup> October) to family members only as it would have been invidious to have to choose between the many people who would have liked to attend in normal times.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to the Funeral Director - TA Ellement and Sons Ltd at 51 High Street, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 7BD (Tel 01895 621950). Please make any cheques payable to Michael Sobell Hospice.

The family fully intend organising a celebration of Mr Jaggar's life in either the spring or summer of 2021, to be held at Jordans Meeting House, Buckinghamshire, where his ashes will be laid to rest in accordance with his wishes. Full details will be circulated at an appropriate time and all those associated with Vyners School who might wish to attend would be most welcome.

Please feel free to forward this message to all networks associated with Vyners that you are able to contact. We have contacted Jeremy Stapleton of the founder pupils directly (as he wrote a letter to us) and also Peter Williams, former teacher at the school, however we are sure that you have far greater reach than we do.

*Rhys Jaggar (Mr)*

### **Friends of Vyners (FoV) - 100 Club**

I would like to congratulate all of the prize winners from the Friends of Vyners '100 Club' draws from the months of February through to July (see document attached). I would also like to pass on my sincere thanks to Mrs Karen Thompson for her continued commitment to this initiative.

The FoV '100 Club' has been an incredibly successful fundraising tool for our Parent's Organisation and has helped to provide our students with a wide range of facilities and resources that are often difficult to acquire from within our main school budget. It is at this time of year that we usually make a plea for volunteers to assist with the work of Friends of Vyners. If this is something that interests you then please contact the school and we will ensure that your details are forwarded appropriately.

In addition, if you wish to participate in the '100 Club' then please complete the application form [[click here](#)] and forward it to [100club@friendsofvyners.co.uk](mailto:100club@friendsofvyners.co.uk)

Additional information and a link to the Friends of Vyners website can be found on the school website [\[click here\]](#).

I hope that you all enjoy the weekend break.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Mullings', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Gary Mullings**  
**Headteacher**



# FriendsOfVyners



## '100 Club'

The FOV '100 Club' helps provide much needed finance for Vyners School while giving all members a chance to win cash prizes of between £25.00 and £100.00 in our monthly lottery draws

FOV '100 Club' membership helps supports the school by raising additional funds for projects currently outside the scope of existing funding. These contribute towards the running costs of the school minibuses, as well as purchasing Chrome Books for IT, soft seating for LRC and Reading Zone, display units for Science, new ovens for Food Technology, a 3-D printer for DT and much, much more.....

An annual share costs just **£1.00 per month** (payable as £12.00 per year) and there is no limit to the number of shares that you may buy

### '100 Club' winners February to July 2020:

#### **February 2020**

**£25.00**

Sally Stone (25)  
Imelda O'Halloran (161)

#### **May 2020**

**£25.00**

Sonia Vines (99)  
Katie Kernot (232)

#### **March 2020**

**£25.00**

Louise Hagan (57)  
Jo Ginn (115)

#### **June 2020**

**£25.00**

Julie-Anne Marquez (11)  
Colin Burgess (209)

#### **March 2020 Quarterly**

**£50.00**

Pavinder Bodwal (315)  
Mr Manoj Asan (191)

#### **June 2020 Quarterly**

**£50.00**

Danny Yeoman (79)  
Margaret Hutchinson (193)

#### **April 2020**

**£25.00**

Jenny Jessop (61)  
Mrs Penny Wilson (141)

#### **July 2020**

**£25.00**

Rawan Hammodeh (87)  
Simon Bell (152)

*Please also remember to keep us informed if there is any change in address*

Simply complete the attached '100 Club' application form and send to the School office addressed to 'FOV 100 Club' or contact the Organiser via eMail at [100club@friendsofvyners.co.uk](mailto:100club@friendsofvyners.co.uk)