

20th November 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

It's been a long and tumultuous fortnight since my last update. However, we have come to the end of another week and have again been amazed at how the community has pulled together to ensure that we make every reasonable effort to do our best for our students. Thank you once again to all families that we have had to communicate with regarding their child remaining at home. The level of understanding has been exceptional and very much appreciated by my colleagues.

During this period it could be easy to forget that we observed Remembrance Day. This was done in a socially distanced way with Years 7, 8 and 9 standing in silence in different areas of the quad and tennis courts, whilst students in Years 10 through to 13 observed the two-minute silence in their classrooms. I would like to thank **Mr Cullum** and **Mrs Bashford-Hynes** for their support of this event and would also pay a special mention to Deputy Head Girl, **Hannah Khan** (13G) for conducting the reading of Laurence Binyon's famous war time poem, *For the Fallen* and **Joseph Saunders** (12H) for his rendition of *The Last Post* and *The Rouse*.

As a reminder, the school will be closed to all students on Thursday and Friday next week as all staff will be engaging in our annual staff conference. This year's conference will be conducted entirely remotely utilising Google and Zoom platforms and I am delighted that we have been able to secure [Jaz Ampaw-Farr](#) as our keynote speaker. Please note that staff will not be posting lessons on Google Classrooms on those days but may set additional home learning tasks earlier in the week. I would also ask parents and students to refrain from emailing staff during the conference period, with the exception of emergencies.

Students in Years 11 and 13 should, of course, be using the long weekend to prepare for their trial examinations. The exam timetables for each cohort are available via the school website. A link to the webpage can be found [\[here\]](#).

The first of our remote parent's consultation evenings will take place on Thursday 3rd December. This activity will take place using a platform called SchoolCloud, which has been highly recommended to us and we will be writing to parents and carers of students in the Year 12 cohort next week to invite them to make appointments for the evening. We would very much welcome feedback about the event so that we can make improvements and refinements going forward and I would encourage as many parents as possible to complete the Google Form when it is sent out post event.

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Mr Gary Mullings BA (Hons)
Headteacher

Thank you to all parents who attended the Friends of Vyners AGM on Zoom yesterday evening. It was wonderful to catch up with the committed, longstanding members of the organisation but I was also delighted to be able to welcome new members to the group, some of whom were parents of students new to the school in Year 7. Due to the pandemic, the group has taken the decision to reduce the current number of activities that they are engaged in. However, the **100 Club** will be continuing and there will be a Christmas Raffle, the first prize being an X-Box Series S. Full details of the Christmas Draw (raffle) can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Hillingdon Food Bank

Our collection for the [Hillingdon Food Bank](#) is now well under way. If families would like to donate longlife food items through the school then please direct your child to place any items in the boxes that have been placed in the school reception area. We have lots of pasta but tinned items would be greatly appreciated.

Vyners Christmas Draw Tickets 2020

This year, our Vyners Christmas Fayre will not be taking place due to the social distancing restrictions, however our Christmas Raffle is still going ahead. The Christmas Fayre and Raffle are the single largest fund-raising activity for Friends of Vyners (FOV) in the school year, and as the Fayre isn't able to take place it is vital that every effort is made to sell as many tickets as we can.

This year all raffle tickets will be available to purchase via **sQuid**. Students will not be bringing any raffle ticket booklets home. Every ticket purchased via sQuid will have a number assigned to it and the winners will be picked at random. All winners will be notified as soon as possible after the draw on Tuesday 15th December, so you can collect your prizes before Christmas.

Prizes for the draw will include:

- 1st = X-Box "Series S" – the very latest version!!**
- 2nd = M&S Hamper worth £100 donated by Lakins & Co**
- 3rd = iTunes £25 voucher**
- 4th = Amazon voucher worth £15**
- Other prizes as donated by Parents / Local Businesses**



If parents or carers have any items that you feel would be suitable for us to use as Raffle prizes, please send them to the school office labelled FOV Christmas Fayre donation.

Have a peaceful weekend.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Mullings', written in a cursive style.

Gary Mullings
Headteacher