

11th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Unfortunately this week, we've had to share the news of the first positive test cases of COVID-19 within the school community since the beginning of the spring term. This has inevitably led to a fair number of students within the Year 10 bubble having to self-isolate due to the fact that they were identified as close contacts. As always, we will continue to monitor the situation very carefully and will take further steps to minimise the chance of a significant increase in cases where possible. We will not immediately ask students to return to wearing face coverings in the classroom but will keep this under review. We also look ahead to the anticipated announcement from the Prime Minister on Monday as to whether restrictions will be lifted on or near 21st June. In the meantime, I would ask all parents and carers to reinforce the messages with their children about hand and respiratory hygiene as well as undertaking sensible social distancing measures. I would also like to thank all families who have continued to conduct LFD tests at home and taking the time to share outcomes with the school. I do appreciate that this is a painstaking process but it is critical as it allows us to carefully monitor usage of the tests and continue to have clarity as to whether they continue to provide a level of mitigation alongside other health and safety measures.

I am pleased to be able to report that we have made significant progress in the formulation of the teacher assessed grades for students in Years 11 and 13. We are currently at the internal verification stage where we are reviewing all outcomes at a senior team level. Although we have made significant progress to date, the week ahead will be highly pressurised as we work to ensure that all grades are successfully submitted to the exam boards by Friday 18th June. I would like to thank again all of the staff and other members of the school community who have supported this process. We will continue to provide periodic updates for parents and carers leading up to the publication of the final outcomes in August.

Whilst it has been a testing week in some ways, there have been many moments of light heartedness and inspiration. One such moment took place on Thursday afternoon when I had the privilege of assisting in the judging of our Sustainability Competition for Year 9 students. The event is part of a wider competition / strategy that is being undertaken across the Vanguard Learning Trust. Student groups from each tutorial were asked to pitch their ideas to the judges in a Dragon's Den style format. The ideas focused primarily on sustainability and contributing to a significant reduction in the school's carbon footprint. The winning group developed the concept of reusable lunch boxes that can be used to purchase discounted meals in the school canteen. It is a really interesting concept and I must congratulate **Jayden Desai, Ved Sakaria, Aaryan Patel and Rhys Heal** for their excellent work and presentation skills.

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Mr Gary Mullings BA (Hons)
Headteacher

By winning this stage of the competition the students will receive £500 towards developing their concept within the school. The winners of the Trust final will receive up to £2500 in order to develop their final project. I'm delighted that Lord Randall of Uxbridge has agreed to participate in the final judging panel. I also understand that the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson has been invited to the event. I know that he continues to be a supporter of the schools within the Trust but we will have to wait to see just how full his diary is at that stage. Congratulations to all students involved and my sincere thanks to Mrs Vine, who has taken on the leadership of the strategy within the school and Miss Williams who also supported the event.

Another moment took place earlier in the week, on Tuesday I was invited to speak to the staff at Hermitage Primary School and discuss the benefits of collaborating within a multi academy trust such as VLT. It was an absolute pleasure to attend alongside the Executive Headteacher, Dr Lecky and the Headteacher of Hermitage School, Mrs Elaine D'Souza. It is always a pleasure to visit our feeder schools within the locality, meet the staff and speak to the students. I am very much looking forward to increasing this type of activity once we are allowed to safely visit different institutions on a more frequent basis.

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 October 2020 through to March 2021 (see 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. 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

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

Finally this week, I would like to remind parents and carers that there is a staff INSET day just around the corner on Friday 25th June. Our main focus on the day will be working collaboratively to ensure that we have carefully planned for September, both in terms of the curriculum as well as our pastoral provision. Thank you to all parents, carers and students in advance for their understanding.

Yours sincerely,



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 October 2020 to March 2021:

October 2020

£25.00

Mr Terry Gardner (76)
Binu Raj (211)

December 2020

£25.00

Mr Ian Drysdale (101)
Mrs Claire Milne (159)

December 2020 Yearly

£100.00

Mr Matthew Yates (80)
Binu Raj (211)

February 2021

£25.00

Mr & Mrs J Hughes (95)
Carolina Billings (223)

March 2021 Quarterly

£50.00

Mrs Lucy Greenfield (2)
Carolina Billings (223)

November 2020

£25.00

Mr & Mrs M Mason (17)
Mr Simon Bell (152)

December 2020 Quarterly

£50.00

Dr & Mrs Goolamali (19)
Imelda O'Halloran (161)

January 2021

£25.00

Mrs Lucy Greenfield (26)
Margaret Hutchinson (194)

March 2021

£25.00

Imelda O'Halloran (54)
Mr Paul Lazenby (162)

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