



Headteacher's Update

24th September 2021

On Wednesday 29th September we will be hosting our annual Junior School Open Evening. This is one of the biggest events of the school calendar and an extremely important evening for parents of children who may wish to be admitted to Vyners in September 2022. In order to prepare for the evening the school day will end at 12.20pm on Wednesday and school will reopen at 9.30am on Thursday for a 9.45am start. At this point I would like to thank all students who have agreed to assist on the night. It is people who make organisations and visitors to the school regularly comment on how well-mannered and polite our students are, which makes a critical difference on such events. If your child is helping on Wednesday evening and you are planning to bring them to the school via the roads then I would ask that you avoid Warren Road at all costs as it will be extremely busy during the evening and can, at times, become grid locked. We will also be running a series of open mornings, which both prospective and existing parents are welcome to attend. If you wish to attend any of these mornings then please check the details on the school website and contact the school reception to book an appointment. Please note that due to COVID-19 restrictions we will be limiting visits to families of Year 6 students only. We very much recognise that some families (particularly those of children in Year 8) have not had an opportunity to visit the school to date and we will ensure that opportunities are made available later this term.

COVID-19 Vaccinations - 12 - 17 year olds

Thank you to all parents and carers who have completed the consent forms for the COVID vaccination programme. I very much appreciate that this is a tricky decision for some families and that it requires a fair amount of consideration. I would again, stress the importance of reading the guidance material that was shared earlier this week as well as ensuring that your child is fully informed. A guidance document for students can be found [here](#). As a reminder, the deadline for completion of the Google consent form is this coming Monday. I would very much appreciate a response for all students who will be 12 years of age or older in October. This is regardless of whether you wish your child to have the vaccination or not.

WhatsApp Groups

It has come to our attention that there are a number of WhatsApp groups that are being accessed by Vyners' parents to share school related information. This, in itself, does not concern us. However, it is clear that there is a considerable amount of misinformation being shared on these platforms, which is causing a degree of confusion and angst to some parents. Given that this seems to be the case, I would ask that if any parent or carer is unsure of information that they are wishing to share with other parents on such groups that they contact the school to verify the information prior to sharing. Any parent who has an issue regarding their child's education is encouraged to speak directly to the school to seek resolution.

Warren Road

Whilst the traffic on Warren Road has improved considerably at the end of the school day, it is still unsatisfactory and, at times dangerous, in the mornings. Many of the problems stem from the fact that parents are dropping off their children relatively late (after 8.25am) and then attempting to make U-turns on what is an incredibly busy road. Having observed the situation during the week I have to admit that I was dismayed by some of the actions of some of our parents. These actions are causing considerable levels of frustration for our residents but also make the area unsafe for our students. Therefore, I would again request that parents and carers avoid dropping their children off by car on Warren Road in the mornings. If there is a need to travel by car then please ensure that children are dropped off away from the

school and make the final stages of their journey on foot. Please do not enter Warren Road at the start or end of the school day with the intention of changing direction via a U-turn. I would appreciate it if we were all able to work together to ensure that the area remains safe for our children.

London Youth Games

I was delighted to learn of the large number of Vyners' students who have been successful in being selected to represent Hillingdon for the London Youth Games. The games provide a wonderful opportunity for young people to compete on a regional scale and engage with other students from across London. There were several Vyners' students who collected awards for being part of successful Hillingdon teams: Cricket (3rd place) - Jemima Potter (Y9) & Connie Wilkins (Y9). Netball (2nd place) - Melia Gaynor-Palmer (Y9), Alice Day (Y10) & Aliyah Hamaida (Y10).

My warmest congratulations to all Vyners' students who participated and to the 'fantastic five' for their wonderful achievements.

English Schools National Success

I would like to congratulate Ryeesa Sekhon (10F) and her U14 Middlesex football team who became champions of England on Saturday, winning the English Schools FA Cup. Ryeesa, who plays her club football for Arsenal, was instrumental in the win, scoring the winning goal after hitting a 60 yard pass and following her run to finish superbly on the edge of the box. Congratulations Ryeesa on an outstanding achievement!

Jack Petchey Speak Out Competition

A number of students in Year 10 recently took part in the Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge, an expert-led, interactive workshop designed to improve confidence and skills in public speaking. Led by a fantastic host from the Speaker's Trust, by the end of the workshops every student delivered a speech they created from scratch to their classmates.

It was fantastic to see students' confidence grow throughout the day and how they built upon the tasks and techniques to prepare for their final speech. I would like to extend my congratulations to all of the students involved, as well as our winners from the two workshops: Thursday 16th September - Ved Sakaria (10W) & Ciara Bell (10M) and Friday 17th September - Ella Brown (10C) & Reem Choudhry (10W)

These students will now be preparing to compete in the inter-school final which will decide who will go on to represent Vyners School at the Regional Finals which will take place later in the academic year. Thank you to all the staff that were involved in the smooth running of the day to ensure our students were afforded this fantastic opportunity.

Finally this week, I would like to wish Team Europe the very best in the Ryder Cup. I know golf is not everyone's 'cup of tea' but I do know that there will be many families who will be gripped by the unfolding tension and drama!

Have a lovely weekend.

Gary Mullings
Headteacher

Headteacher Commendations

Iraj Birk - 8C
Kian Bohmer-Nawrozzade - 8C
Ashana Burey - 8C

Grace Clark - 8C
Leah Coulby - 8C
Evie Daffern - 8C