

## Headteacher's Update

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

I must start my update this week by stating that I was delighted to be able to host the annual Awards Evenings last night. We took the decision to go ahead with the events after ensuring that all appropriate safety measures were in place and it was wonderful to have parents and carers in the hall and students receiving awards on the stage with parents present for the first time in two years. Our guest speaker for the evening was former wheelchair athlete and sports journalist, Jordan Jarrett-Bryan. Jordan did not attend in person but shared with us a fabulous video that talked about his career, his personal experiences and the importance of the key values of equality and celebrating diversity. A version of Jordans' video can be found [\[here\]](#). I am also delighted that Jordan has committed to visiting the school to work with our students later in the academic year. I would like to congratulate all of our Gold Award and Special Award winners again for their achievements as well as highlight the resiliency that they have demonstrated in challenging times. Thank you also, to my incredibly hard working staff for making the event possible.

The Vanguard Learning Trust Awards for the Autumn Term are awarded to Ishani Ganesha Sharma (8G), Chloe Rooney (11F) and Katie Ginger (12W). As a reminder, these awards are only available to one student per key stage per term and are awarded for excellence and adherence to the Trust's values of Aspiration, Community and Equity. I really enjoyed meeting up with the three young ladies this morning to discuss their achievements and future aspirations. Congratulations to all three students. They are clearly wonderful role models.



At this time of year it is quite normal to be saying farewell to some colleagues as they move on from Vyners to new opportunities in their lives. I would like to extend my very best wishes to Mr Maheady, who has acquired a role at another Hillingdon School as an Assistant Headteacher. Mrs Lorriman-Hughes will be leaving her post as a teacher of the deaf as she will be relocating to another part of the

country with her family. Mr Maunder (Media Studies) will be heading back to the north of the country to take up another role after successfully completing a year whilst Miss Parsons was on maternity leave and our facilities assistant, Mr Lechowicz will be moving to another role away from the school. I would like to warmly thank each member of staff for their wonderful service during their time at the school and wish them the very best in their new pursuits.

As well as welcoming back Miss Parsons, I would like to welcome three new members of staff to the school in January. Mr Freeman will be joining us in the English department, Mr Cawley in PE, whilst Vyners alumni member, Miss Cherfan has recently started her new role in the SEN department.

### ChemistTREE Competition

The first Vyners ChemistTREE Competition for KS3 students took place in December on the theme "Energy and Sustainability". The ChemistTREE competition was a fantastic opportunity for students to learn about this very important topic and hopefully lays the foundation for an environmentally responsible adulthood. Students worked independently or as a team to build on research, communication, teamwork and organisation skills. We received over 50 amazing entries making the judging process very difficult indeed. All the participants will receive a certificate for their hard work and ingenuity in producing their entry.

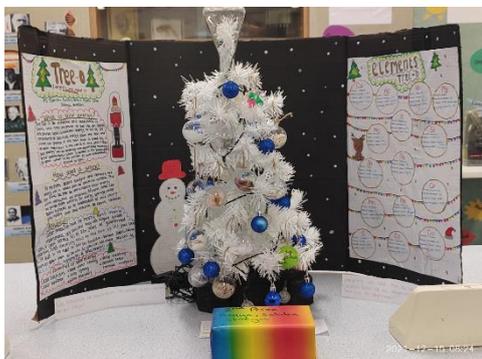
The ChemistTREE judging team was composed of; two Year 12 Chemistry students, Ms Holt (Subject Leader for Science), Mrs Harvey (Deputy Headteacher) and myself.

The Vyners KS3 ChemistTREE Competition 2021 winners were:

**First Prize -**  
Benji Hampshire (7W)



**Second Prize  
O Tree Team**  
Shreya  
Kukadia (8P)  
Sahiba Bindra  
(8M),  
Aniya Pannu  
(8J)



### Alumni success

I would like to congratulate Vyners alumni, Sameenah Toussaint as she recently won the British Amateur Boxing Championships. She was in the female NACs, Under 57kg and defeated Roni Dean (Thetford Town) by a split decision. Sammenah has been a rising star in the world of British boxing for a considerable time so it is wonderful to see her emerge with this title at senior level. Very well done!



Finally this week, I would like to wish all families and friends of the school a very Merry Christmas. I hope that you all remain safe and well and I very much look forward to seeing as many of you in person as possible in the New Year.

**Gary Mullings  
Headteacher**

### Headteacher's Commendations

#### Work Related Learning

Tanisha Bahra	8G
Suri Deslandes	8G
Sulaiman Dildar	8G
Patrick Emanuel	8G
Honor Fforde	8G
Anna Foley	8G

#### English

Ben Handley	7J
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**Third Prize**  
Sean  
Coxwell (8F)



The winner's ChemisTREE was submitted to the Royal Society of Chemistry as part of a larger national competition. I would like to thank all the participants for their engagement, dedication and hard work.

### Christmas Charitable Work

As is usually the case, staff, students and their families have been busy over recent weeks undertaking work to support a variety of charities in the lead up to Christmas. This year we have been able to provide a range of items for the [Hillingdon Food Bank](#), donate dozens of coats for [Wrap Up London](#) and also made a significant contribution to the [Salvation Army Shoebox Appeal](#). The Christmas Jumper Day that took place today has also raised hundreds of pounds for [Save the Children](#). Thank you to all staff, students and families for their incredible generosity. I am confident that these gifts will make a huge difference to those who receive them.



### School Travel and Road Safety Strategy - e-scooters

With Christmas Day around the corner, many parents may have gone out or are considering purchasing their child an e-scooter. The local authority via the STARS scheme have asked us to remind all parents that they are still very much illegal unless used on private land with the owners consent. Please find linked the parents guide to E-Scooters [\[click here\]](#).