



Headteacher's Update

11th February 2022

Whilst teaching and learning remains our core purpose, health, safety and safeguarding remain the highest of priorities for all schools across the country. I attended an excellent safeguarding workshop designed for school leaders and designated safeguarding leads (DSLs) on Monday of this week as part of the ongoing training that is required for senior leaders in schools. The session was led by former Ofsted Lead Inspector, Angela Corbett who now specialises in this area. Angela provided a holistic overview of safeguarding, which included some of the more challenging aspects of child safety but also explored areas such as school attendance, online safety, sex and relationships education (to enable young people to make more informed choices), gaming and mobile devices.

Angela also (quite rightly) impressed on us the need to regularly update parents and carers on some of the current issues that some young people may often face. I would again like to highlight the *Keeping Safe* section of the school website, which has information for parents related to a number of safeguarding issues. In addition, I will be regularly sharing information via the newsletter, such as the *Gaming* information session that took place earlier this week. It is very much recognised that we, as a school, must work in partnership with parents and carers to support the children in all aspects of their safety and wellbeing.

One issue that does remain a concern is the early arrival of some children to the school site at the start of the day. Whilst we appreciate excellent punctuality, arriving on school site before a good number of staff are present does present a safeguarding risk. In addition, some children are tailgating cars through the vehicle gates so that they can access the site earlier than we would expect. We will now have a member of staff manning the access point for the pedestrian gate from 7.45am but students should not arrive before this time unless they have an arranged meeting with a member of staff or planned intervention. I would very much appreciate the support of parents with this matter.

The School Production - *Hairspray*, 2nd – 4th March

A reminder that the school production of *Hairspray* will be taking place from Wednesday 2nd to Friday 4th March. Tickets sales have been brisk since going on sale this week. Tickets can be purchased via ticket source: ticketsource.co.uk/vyners.

Exam Board Pre-release Information

As mentioned in last week's update, exam boards have now released information to inform students of the changes that have been made in the content to be examined this coming summer. The subject information has been collated and shared with students via their subject Google classrooms and summary information is available via the school website [\[click here\]](#). Having spoken to a number of subject staff, it is important to stress that, whilst some content has been removed from the exams, there are lots of instances where one topic is so entwined with another

that students will still need to learn the former to be able to answer the latter. It is important that students understand this issue and do not automatically challenge the teaching of content that has been removed from the examinations.

World Book Day

This year, World Book Day celebrates its 25th anniversary on Thursday 3rd March with the theme being, 'You are a Reader!' Therefore, in the spirit of this year's theme, I would like to invite **Year 7 and Year 8 students** to have the opportunity to get involved and celebrate the day by dressing up! The theme "*You are a Reader*" allows more freedom to be creative and they can, if they wish, choose a character from a book or a book series or even their favourite author! If dressing up is something that doesn't appeal to them, then even a hat, scarf, prop or another accessory that represents their chosen character or author will do. We are also encouraging them to bring in their favourite book on the day. This can be fiction or nonfiction! The idea is really to celebrate 'good' stories! As World Book Day founder, Baroness Gail Rebeck recalls. "We wanted to do something to reposition reading and our message is the same today as it was then - that reading is fun, relevant, accessible, exciting, and has the power to transform lives." Please make a note in your diaries and I hope Rebeck's message inspires your children to get involved!

Mrs Goode

Friends of Vyners '100' Club

Congratulations to all of the prize winners from the Friends of Vyners '100 Club' draws from the months of October to December 2021 [\[click here\]](#). The FoV '100 Club' has been an incredibly successful fundraising tool for our parents' 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 wish the entire school community a happy and safe half term.

Gary Mullings Headteacher

Headteacher Commendations

<u>Work Related Learning</u>		<u>Mathematics</u>	
Hanif Dryden	8H	Rhys Heal	10W
Dylan Everett	8H		
Hema Gasper	8H	<u>English</u>	
Sienna Gill	8H	Ashana Burey	8C
Keisha Gohel	8H		
Barnaby Hickey	8H		