

## Headteacher's Update

4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

It has been wonderful to be able to welcome back the school production this week as it has been an opportunity for everyone involved to enjoy themselves, with the audience singing and even dancing along with the cast at our sold out performances. The students outdid themselves in every scene, causing the audience to laugh, cry and gasp as they watched our talented students giving 100% to an incredible show. We were literally rocking in the aisles. Stunning performances on the stage as well as the incredible sound of our band led to a professional and exciting show, supported admirably by the whole crew of students and staff.

Hairspray 2022 is certainly a show that will not be forgotten: the important message of racial integration being so expertly delivered by an incredibly talented cast. I very much look forward to attending the final performance this evening and the opportunity to welcome so many family members and friends of the school back into the main hall. My sincere thanks to all staff and students who have worked so incredibly hard to make this year's production a success. I would like to express my particular thanks to Miss Pope, Mr Cullum and Mrs Moore for their incredible commitment to the students at Vyners.



### World Book Day

Staff and students have also embraced World Book Day in true Vyners style on Thursday by dressing up as characters from their favourite books. Whilst it was a terrific day for all involved it was also vitally important to highlight the importance of reading. Thank you once again to Mrs Nicholls and Mrs Goode for leading this activity. There will be a more extensive item about World Book Day in our next update.



### Culture and Cuisine

Fifteen of our Sixth Form food technologists enjoyed a culinary and cultural tour of London's East End on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. The excursion took in many historical points of interest, including where Queen Victoria's wedding dress was made, Jack the Ripper's local, and many examples of the inspirational street art that adorns the area. Culinary highlights included Bangladeshi sweets and savouries from Brick Lane, a specialist Ghanian chocolatier and delicious bagels from the oldest bagel producer in the UK. The students in attendance were a pleasure to accompany and a very enjoyable experience was had by all.



### Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Quality Mark

I am pleased to be able to inform parents and carers that Vyners has signed up to work towards the [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Quality Mark scheme](#) (EDIQM) in recent weeks, which is a scheme that aims to provide schools with a framework and professional support for developing EDI leadership, teaching and learning and celebrate excellence in EDI. Having undertaken a fair amount of research of late in the field of equality and diversity, what is evident is that the experiences of diverse groups and individuals within organisations such as schools can at times be quite different than imagined and that it may only be when listening to individuals about their actual experiences that you find out the types of issues that people are experiencing. Another important point that struck me recently when listening to a well regarded speaker on these issues is that good intentions are not enough. Schools and other organisations need to demonstrate impact when working to improve in areas such as equality, diversity and inclusion.

The scheme will seek to address all of the [9 protected characteristics](#) under the Equality Act 2010. I will aim to update parents and carers of our progress as we work to achieve this nationally recognised standard.

### **The Munchbox has landed !**

Our school Eco Team is proud to launch the Munchbox. This concept, for which our students won recognition in a recent VLT sustainability competition, consists of a washable lunch container which can be used in the top school canteen to hold a cooked main meal. The video from our Business Manager Miss Williams, tells you more [\[click here\]](#).

We would like to extend our thanks to our catering partner, Aspens, for supporting this initiative in the form of a 20p discount for every main meal served in a reusable box.

Use it, wash it, bring it back for a refill and save money!

### **Year 8 Parents Evening**

My sincere apologies this week for the issue that occurred with the booking system for the Year 8 parents evening that takes place next Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> March. It appears that the information letters were incorrectly scheduled to be sent to some parents at an earlier than planned stage and that the information was then shared amongst other parents on WhatsApp groups. Hopefully, the issue has now been rectified but I would ask parents to wait until they receive a letter before booking in the future as this will clarify all arrangements. I know that our staff are very much looking forward to meeting with parents remotely to discuss their child's progress next week.

### **Year 9 Parents Evening Feedback**

Year 9 parents have been sent a letter which includes a Google Form to give feedback on the recent Parents Evening. A link to the letter can be found [\[here\]](#). I would be grateful if parents could complete the form as this will help us to continue to improve our systems going forward.

Whilst it has been such a vibrant and positive week within the school community, our thoughts remain with those caught up in the war in Ukraine as well as family and friends who are overseas and are desperately trying to stay in touch with loved ones in the country. Whilst we have started our charitable efforts towards supporting the people trapped in this terrible situation, this is clearly going to be a protracted conflict and we are thinking about a sustainable plan that will allow us to provide some support for families in this conflict. I will be writing to parents and carers about this during the week ahead.

I hope all families have a safe and peaceful weekend.

**Gary Mullings**  
**Headteacher**

### **Headteacher Commendations**

#### English

Stevie Green	8W
Sean Coxwell	8F

#### Work Related Learning

Keira Smith	8H
Emily Whittaker	8H
Yasin Yasin	8H
Jeevan Bhambra	8J
Ashton Aubrey	8J