

Headteacher's Update

23rd September 2022

As we come to the end of the third week of the term, I can honestly say just how delighted I have been with the positive attitude of our returning cohorts as well as the excellent start that our new Year 7 cohort has made to their careers at Vyners. I have visited dozens of lessons and spent a significant amount of time in the canteens and on the quad area during the break times, with much of that time spent catching up with our students. With only one or two minor exceptions, they all look incredibly smart and have settled into their learning routines exceptionally well.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the Year 7 Parents Cheese and Wine Evening yesterday due to the fact that it coincided with a joint Governors Education and Standards meeting, which involved governors from both Vyners and Ruislip High School. This was the very first of such meetings and has been designed primarily to ensure that both schools are able to work collaboratively to continue to raise standards and improve outcomes. Thank you to Miss Hawes, Year Leader and Mr Cahill, Assistant Headteacher for hosting the cheese and wine evening and Mr Davey, Assistant Headteacher and members of the Friends of Vyners for their support in purchasing and serving the cheese and wine. I very much hope that the parents who were able to attend the event enjoyed a productive and informative evening.

The passing of the late Queen has meant that this has been the first opportunity that I have had to reflect on the summer break with parents and carers. The six week summer period is always a busy time for any school as this is the time when GCSE and A level results are published and a significant amount of maintenance and upgrading of the facilities takes place. Indeed, we have spent over £250,000 during this period, which has involved a number of different projects including upgrading our boilers in the legacy building, replacing a large number of classroom projectors, upgrading the art work in a number of external areas, upgrading ceilings and lighting in the art corridors and decorating a number of areas

including the new building, which included extensive wall protection. In addition, the entire school has been deep cleaned including all external windows. My sincere thanks go to Mr Seabridge and his facilities team as well as Miss Williams, Business Manager and Mr Fiaz, our Network Manager for helping to facilitate these works.

Alongside the maintenance works, our new catering company, Cucina, have upgraded the catering facilities and have been serving meals to staff and students, including on our staff INSET day. Whilst somewhat anecdotal, the feedback that I have received from the students about the new food offerings has been extremely positive but we will send out a more extensive student survey about the catering facilities towards the end of the half term.

With regards to examination results, it proved to be another exceptional year for the school with outstanding GCSE and A level results and without doubt the best set of combined results that the school has achieved. At A-level, over 65% of all grades were at A*-B and more than two thirds of all grades at A*-A. At GCSE level, 88% of all grades were at 9-4, whilst 75% were at 9-5 and 36% at 9-7. Parents and carers may well have read that outcomes nationally would be set between the 2019 outcomes (which was the most recent time that external examinations were sat) and the 2021 teacher assessed grades and whilst this was the case nationally, both our GCSE and A level cohorts were able to achieve outcomes that were above the excellent 2021 outcomes on all benchmarks. Whilst we are delighted with these (statistical) outcomes, we are more interested in what they mean for our students and we were delighted that the overwhelming majority in both cohorts have been able to progress onto the university, apprenticeship, sixth form or college of their choosing. My warmest congratulations to all students who received results this summer as well as their families. We very much appreciate how stressful it has been to be the first cohorts to return to external examinations but the outcomes were exceptional.

Her Majesty the Queen

I would like to thank Mr Beale for his contribution to the recent assemblies that helped the school community to both mourn and celebrate the life of Her Majesty the Queen. Thank you also to Mr Kunig for overseeing the book of condolence for the school community and a special thank you to Chris Perkins from Groundtel Ltd for his tribute to the Queen that was etched onto the Vyners playing fields. I hope that all families were able to spend some quality time together over the extended weekend reflecting on the life of the Queen. May she rest in peace.



Open Evening

Our annual Junior School Open Evening will take place this coming Wednesday 28th September from 4.30 - 8.30pm. The school will close early on Wednesday to allow staff to prepare for the evening and will reopen to students from 10.30am on Thursday 29th September with all students required to be on site to register at 10.45am at the latest. A letter has been shared with all families regarding the evening. A link to the letter can be found [\[here\]](#).

Start of Term Reminders

I would like to gently remind all parents and carers that they should do their very best to avoid dropping off or picking up their children on Warren Road at the start and end of the day. We very much appreciate that parents who are new to the school will want to be there for their child at these times, but this should only be the case during the first few weeks. Thereafter, students should walk, cycle or take public transport and preferably travel to and from school with friends. If it is the case that a parent or carer does stop on Warren Road (or surrounding roads) at any time then they should ensure that they do not stop on the zig zagged lines immediately outside the school, should not park over residents driveways or reverse onto driveways including the entrance and exit to the school. We are continuing to participate in the School Travel and Road Safety Project (STaRS) this year

and will be promoting a number of activities with the aim of reducing the number of cars that travel into the area and, at the same time, improving sustainability and road safety.

I would also like to ask parents and carers to encourage their children to be organised and ensure they bring the correct equipment to school each day. The Office staff have been inundated with parents bringing items into school that their children have forgotten, such as PE kits, homework, books, etc.

Accessing sQuid via Edulink

Some of you may have noticed that Edulink now has a new sQuid button. This enables parents to access our cashless payment platform directly from within Edulink (rather than having to log into a different system to make payments). If this is of interest, please follow the instructions attached to this newsletter. Parents only need to make the link between the two systems once.

Miss Williams, Business Manager

Information Received

Also attached to this newsletter are posters detailing activities that are being held in our local community which may be of interest to parents, carers and students.

Wishing all families a restful weekend.

Gary Mullings

Headteacher

Headteacher Commendations

English

Hibbah Shahzad	7H
Ibrahim Khalid	7H

Work Related Learning

Saneh Virdi	8C
Dina Almunshi	8C
Sophie Anderson	8C
Desiree Akin-Akala	8C
Charlie Ashwood	8C
Amara Atwal	8C
Matilda Hartree	8C
Haroon Azizi	8C

LINKING SQUID + EDULINK

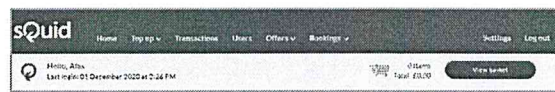
How to register a sQuid account

Link your new account and add funds

01 Go to Settings

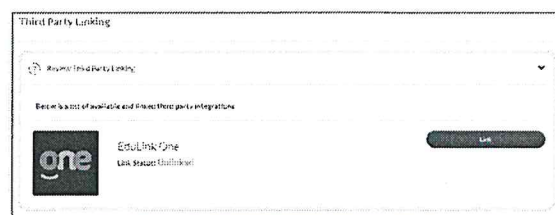
Go to '**Settings**' in the pink menu.

If you are using the sQuid mobile app, please click the menu button (the three lines at the top left of the screen) and scroll down to '**Settings**'.



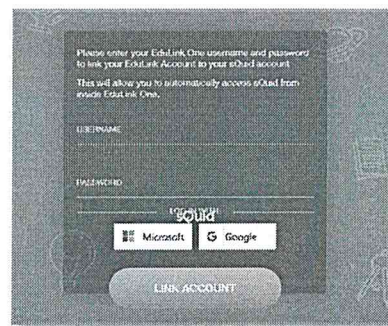
02 Select Third Party Link

Scroll down to **Third Party Linking** and click the pink '**Link**' button.



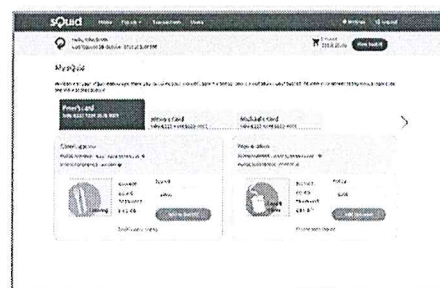
03 Link your sQuid account **TO EDULINK**

You'll be prompted to log in to EduLink to complete the linking process. Enter your EduLink One username and password and then click the '**Link Account**' button.



04 Add funds to your sQuid account

You can add money to your account from a bank transfer or a credit or debit card. Click on the '**Top up**' link at the top of the page, select your preferred payment method and follow the online instructions.



FRIDAY NIGHTS

YOUTH GROUP
AGES 11-17YRS



EVERY FRIDAY 7-9PM
ST. GILES', COMMUNITY HALL
YOUTH GROUP | AGES 11-17YRS

ST GILES' CHURCH, ICKENHAM HIGH ROAD AND SWAKELEYS ROAD
WWW.STGILESCHURCH.CO.UK

WHAT'S ON?

PROGRAMME

DATE

ACTIVITY

9th Sept	Movie Night Raya & The Last Dragon
16th Sept	Games night
23rd Sept	International Night (Dress Up Music and Food)
30th Sept	Board- Games Café Night
7th Oct	Art n Craft Night
14th Oct	Sports Night
21st Oct	Faith/Community Issues
28th Oct	Magic Skills Night



We provide a safe space to hang out, have fun, meet new people, chat, and take part in different games and activities.

ST GILES' CHURCH, ICKENHAM HIGH ROAD AND SWAKELEYS ROAD
WWW.STGILESCHURCH.CO.UK

CLICKRukiga Winter Fundraiser Concert

You are warmly invited to the CLICKRukiga Winter Fundraiser Concert where the **Harrow Apollo Male Choir** will perform songs of many genres including show tunes, light opera and popular music spanning 5 decades.

19th November 2022

8:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Ickenham United Reformed Church,
UB10 8BE



Tickets £10

Available from both churches, AVK i-Care, Bikewise and Derek Hughes on 07793727259 or email dereknmarnie@hotmail.com

Light refreshments will be provided during the interval.

Limited tickets available, first come first serve basis. No seats can be reserved so an early arrival is advised. If you are unable to attend a donation would be most welcome.

<http://www.clickrukiga.org.uk/>

Limited free parking is available in the church car park at the front of the building.
CLICKRukiga is a Registered charity number 1130247
HAMC is a Registered Charity, Number 1117134

CLICKRukiga 2023 Calendar

Available from September 2022



Can be bought from AVK i-Care, Bikewise, Ickenham URC, St. Giles' and Derek Hughes on 07793727259 or email dereknmarnie@hotmail.com

A4 calendar £7.00 each



Thank you to our sponsors AVK i-Care, Bikewise, Grub and Chips and The Pilates Club for helping to make this calendar possible.

<https://avkicare.business.site>
<https://www.grubandchips.co.uk/>

<https://bikewise.org.uk/>
<https://www.thepilatesclub.co.uk>

<http://www.clickrukiga.org.uk/>

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