

Headteacher's Update

11th November 2022

This morning, the entire school descended onto the main school quad to commemorate Armistice Day. As in previous years, the students were impeccable in the way that they conducted themselves from the moment that they left their classrooms, the observance of the two minute's silence, through to the point after 11.00am when they were dismissed for the morning break. Laurence Binyon's first world war poem *For the Fallen* was read aloud by Deputy Head Girl, Katie Ginger (13W) and Deputy Head Boy, Fraser Brannigan (13G) before the playing of the *Last Post*, which was beautifully executed by Katie Gardner (8G). It was at this point that the staff and students paused for two minutes of silent reflection before the playing of the Reveille.

I would like to thank Fraser, Katie Gardner and Katie Ginger as well as Mr Smith, Teacher of History for his excellent Remembrance assemblies throughout the week. Thank you also to Mr Cullum, Head of Music and Mrs Bashford-Hynes, Assistant Headteacher for their support for this event.



Indian Delegation Visit

On Wednesday, we were delighted to welcome a delegation of senior leaders from different schools across a number of regions in India. The delegates visited Vyners and Ryefield Primary School as part of their professional training programme through the organisation, www.dextres.com. The delegates included school principals, school managers and CEOs.

During the day at Vyners, the delegates were able to listen to presentations about the English education system, the recent history and developments at Vyners as well as seeing learning in action in classrooms and experience a round table activity with a number of our student leaders. The delegates were appreciative of the opportunity to visit the school and were extremely complimentary about the school and its students.

I would like to thank Mrs Foster and Mrs Boxall for their work in coordinating the Vyners leg of the visit and also thank the group of students who met with the delegates. Our CEO, Dr Lecky remarked upon just how fantastic they all were.



Vyners Eco Council

It was an absolute pleasure to attend a meeting of the school's Eco Council on Thursday morning. This student leadership group, supported by Mrs Vine, Subject Leader for Art has been focused on devising and implementing strategies to significantly reduce the school's carbon footprint and impact positively on issues such as single use plastic, water usage and waste. The first thing that was absolutely apparent was just how passionate the students are about these issues. It was also impressive to see the large numbers of students present in the meeting, representing all year groups across the school. Miss Williams, Business Manager and I were able to provide feedback about some of the steps that the school and trust have taken to try to improve our sustainability as an organisation. This has included the removal of single use bottled drinks in the canteen, which has reduced plastic water bottle waste by 83% this term alone, continuing to transition the school to LED lighting and replacing older less efficient heating systems.

We are also delighted to be in partnership with the other schools within the trust and ACS Hillingdon in a project with the [Sustainable Advantage](#) organisation. Sustainable Advantage will be supporting the schools within the trust to gather metrics that will allow us to have clear information about our energy usage, water usage and waste. Once the information has been collated it will be inputted into a scoring framework, which will allow us to benchmark ourselves against other organisations including schools. It will be at this point that we will be able to use the benchmarked data to set meaningful targets (and strategies) in order that we can significantly reduce our organisational impact on the environment. This is clearly an exciting opportunity for the school and I would like to particularly thank ACS Hillingdon for bringing the trust schools into this initiative and funding the first year for each of the schools.

Finally, I would like to thank Mrs Vine and all of the student leadership group for their commitment to this issue. They have already made a significant impact on behaviours in the school and it was fantastic to listen to the range of ideas that were elicited from the students throughout the meeting.

Futures Fund Update

Many of you have been quietly contributing to the school's Futures Fund. This is the voluntary donation scheme to which all parents are invited to make a small contribution. The aim of the fund is to enable us to purchase those 'nice to have' items which the school budget will just not stretch to, but which will make a big difference to the lives of your sons and daughters.

I am delighted to be able to reveal that we have just made another major purchase from the fund. Parents who came to the school will remember this as the site of the rather unsightly 'temporary' classrooms. The 2019 expansion of the school removed these classrooms, leaving us with a large area which could be turned over to student recreational use.

Future Fund has now contributed £40,000 towards the cost of having canopies installed in this area. This will keep your children dry over the winter, and the worst of the sun off in the summer. The lifespan of the canopies is 20 years +. Many thousands of children will therefore benefit.

We simply could not have afforded such a large investment without parent support. Can we therefore extend a large and very genuine thank you to all those who have contributed to the fund in the past, large or small. The fund remains open for donations - please click [here](#) to complete the form to confirm or set up your donation.

Miss Williams
Business Manager





Headteacher's Commendations

Art

Zaina Ehsan (7P)

Maths

Michael Durkan (8C)

Zia Khan (11M)

Work Related Learning

Nathan Griffiths (8F)

Lilly Guttridge (8F)

Mahdi Isse (8F)

Isabelle Kelliher (8F)

Jake Lambert (8F)

Paige Lopes (8F)

Mason Martin (8F)

DT

Sebastian Zerman-Parr (12F)

Jack Barrell (12H)

Ben Robbins (12H)

William Hall (12W)

Community

Ross Baker (13H)

Attendance

Weekly attendance figures by year group Week ending 4th November 2022

Year Group	Weekly Attendance
Year 7	94.7%
Year 8	95.8%
Year 9	94.5%
Year 10	91.8%
Year 11	95.2%

Top 3 Tutorial weekly attendance Week ending 4th November 2022

Tutorial	Weekly Attendance
11C	99.7%
9W	99.3%
8F	98.7%

Dates for the diary

Friends of Vyners Quiz Night

- Friday 11th November

Children in Need Day (non-uniform)

- Friday 18th November

Vyners Staff Conference

(school closed to all students)

- Thursday 24th & Friday 25th November

Year 12 Parents Evening (virtual)

- Thursday 8th December