

Headteacher's Update

20th January 2023

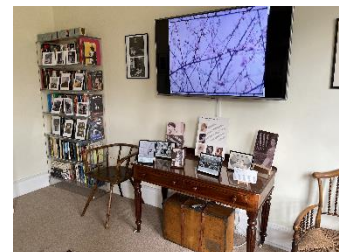
Earlier this week, I shared a letter with parents and carers about the planned industrial action by the National Education Union (NEU). A copy of the letter can be found [here](#). We are continuing to analyse the feedback that has been shared by members of the NEU at Vyners so that we can make sound decisions about whether to open on 1st February. As we currently stand, we are hopeful that we will be able to at least partially open, which would mean that the school would potentially be open to specific year groups. I am hopeful that we will be able to fully inform parents and carers of our plans by the middle of next week.

Parents Evening / Options Evening

Thank you to all parents and carers of students in Year 7 for their engagement in the parent's evening last Thursday. We hope that parents found the evening to be informative and welcome any feedback about the session. I would also like to remind parents and carers of students in Years 8 and 9 that the Options Evenings for the respective year groups will take place next week. Both evenings will be hosted by Mr Davey, Assistant Headteacher with the support of the relevant Year Leader. The Year 8 evening takes place on Monday 23rd January starting at 6.00pm in the main hall, whilst the Year 9 event will commence at 6.30pm on Wednesday 25th January.

A level Psychology Visit

On Monday 9th January, I had the pleasure of participating in the A level Psychology visit to the Freud Museum in London. The day felt like a fantastic learning experience for the students as they were able to learn about Sigmund Freud and the psychodynamic approach from a practising therapist, whilst also exploring the house that Freud lived in during the final year of his life after fleeing Austria in 1938 to escape Nazi persecution. Although Freud only lived in the Hampstead home for about a year his family remained there for some time. This included his daughter, Anna Freud, who became one of the world's leading child psychologists, and his grandson, Lucian Freud, the famous British painter.



Thank you to Miss Charlton for organising the visit and inviting me along and also to Mrs Coyle, Head of Year 13 for supporting the trip.

Student Toilets

Some of our student toilets have been below the standard that we would expect recently due to a number of factors including some deliberate damage and general wear and tear. I have spoken to students about this in assemblies across the last two weeks and offered an apology. Whilst a number of measures have been put in place to improve standards in the short term, I am pleased to be able to share with families that we have secured approximately £60,000 of funding to upgrade our toilets this year and we are willing to add to this amount from our capital revenue to ensure that all of our facilities are at an exceptional standard by the summer term at the latest.

Careers Week

This week has been Year 11 Careers Week, with students attending a number of talks, workshops, a careers and subject fair and having a mock interview with a local employer. This is designed to support Year 11 students in making decisions regarding next steps, whether they are planning to return to Vyners in the Sixth Form, apply for an apprenticeship or study elsewhere. Please click [here](#) to view the Careers Bulletin.

Parents were also invited to an Information Evening about alternatives to Sixth Form. All slides and relevant information will be shared with parents and students for future reference.

We were honoured that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor were able to attend the Careers Fair on Wednesday. They walked around the fair and chatted to students from Years 9 and 10 about their future aspirations.

**Mrs Harvey, Deputy Headteacher /
Mr Kohli, Careers Lead**

Vyners Poet Laureate

Vyners Poets Laureate is a group of seven students from across Years 7-10. The initiative aims to promote and celebrate poetry within the school and to foster poetic talent. Emulating the role of the nation's Poet Laureate, students are encouraged to use poetry to explore identities and a sense of belonging. The group offers a space for students to write about their experiences and the world around them, particularly at Vyners. In January, students have been exploring the theme of "Fresh Starts", including the idea of hopes and dreams.

"The Bag"

*A person, lost on a journey through crowds,
Puts a map in their bag.
They put a well-used pen in there,
They put torn up books in there.
The sounds of laughter and tears, too.
In the bag, the earthy smell of autumn walks,
And the scratches of barbed wire on flesh.
The green of sunlight caught on grass blades,
Then the absence of colour in the bag.
The sound of children's happiness in full playgrounds
Then the sound of a parent's empty lament,
In the bag.
They placed lost dreams in the bag,
The solitude of mourning, too.
They take out a lit pathway,
A direction and destination, a grace.*

*And they left a space, for hope
That found them in the crowd.*

Written by
Avomo-Mbasogo Mba Nguema (Y9),
Ruby Farrington (Y9), and Ibrahim Khalid (Y7)

Mr Dennis, English Department

Headteacher Commendations

Art

Hiruni Ranatunga - 10H

Maths

Millie Sowby - 8J

Jaymin Khatri - 11F

Jake Cole - 11W

Music

Katie Gardner - 8G

Caitlin White - 9M

Kate Walker - 9W

Zia Khan - 11M

Katerina Paige - 12F

Phoebe Crawford - 12F

Phoebe Gardner - 12G

William Goodwin - 12M

Lenai Clarke - 12W

Phoebe Gardner - 12W

Rachael Hunter - 12W

Work Related Learning

Aditya Dusseea - 8H

Adrianna Butkute - 8H

AizaAhmed - 8H

Colby Green - 8H

Daniel Fear - 8H

Evan Allen - 8H

George Burton - 8H

Izzy Daniel - 8H

Jonah Capp - 8H

Lucas Easton-Blake- 8H

Amelie Dixon-Smith - 8H

Sophia Crick - 8H

Thais Goardou-Marcelin - 8H

Rachel Green - 8H

Amol Gurung - 8H

Amba Hagan - 8H

Saffron Howells - 8H

Arya Kamal - 8H

Alana Kesterlian - 8H

Ollie Kneuss - 8H

Bobi Nikolov - 8H

Attendance

Weekly attendance figures by year group

Week ending 13th January 2023

Year Group	Weekly Attendance
Year 7	96.0%
Year 8	95.2%
Year 9	94.9%
Year 10	92.4%
Year 11	93.1%

Top 3 Tutorial weekly attendance

Week ending 13th January 2023

Tutorial	Weekly Attendance
9F	100%
8W	99.3%
7G, 7P, 9W	98.3%

Information Received

