



## Headteacher's Update

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

I would like to thank all members of the wider Vyners community who attended Mr Cahill's Requiem Mass on Tuesday evening at Ealing Abbey. It was wonderful to see former students and colleagues as well as parents, current members of staff and Governors present on what was an inspiring and emotional evening as we gathered to say goodbye to an inspirational teacher, friend and colleague. I would particularly like to thank the students who were in attendance. They lined the steps of the Abbey in freezing temperatures making a guard of honour as Mr Cahill's coffin was carried into the Abbey and repeated this tribute as he departed. It was something that I will never forget. A wonderful reminder, even in challenging times, why so many of us choose to work with young people. Please click [\[here\]](#) to read the tribute that Mrs Harvey read for Mr Cahill's Requiem Mass.

Mr Cahill's family have expressed their thanks to everyone who has demonstrated their support throughout this difficult time. Mr Cahill's body will now be flown to Ireland, which will be his final resting place. As a reminder, the book of condolence for Mr Cahill will close at 3pm on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March. The link to the online form can be found [\[here\]](#). Thank you to all who have left the incredible messages to date. After Monday, we will be transferring all appropriate tributes to a physical Book of Condolence that will be shared with Mr Cahill's family.

Finally, I would like to thank one of our Poet Laureate's, Padraig Mueses Furlong (10F), who after attending the Mass was inspired to write a poem.

### Passing

It's like a summer passing,  
The light all done and gone,  
A bitter wind,  
A bitter taste,  
But none will stop this calling.

It's a spirit passing,  
To where all must know and go,  
A light in lidless sky,  
A world untouched by sadness.

Remember his booming laughter,  
Know his infectious kindness,  
Frame his golden memory,  
And it will ease the summer passing.

**by Padraig Mueses Furlong (10F)**

### School Protests

Parents and carers may be aware of a number of 'protests' that have taken place by groups of students in a variety of schools across the country. Whilst we are not anticipating similar action at Vyners we are all too aware of issues related to copy-cat behaviours driven by videos shared on social media platforms such as TikTok. In some instances, schools have taken the decision to implement new rules or standards or strengthen systems that have already existed, for example, uniform standards or limiting the use of toilets at specific times in the day. In such a climate, I think that it is important to stress that many schools are working incredibly hard to re-establish standards that existed pre-covid. Schools across the country are faced with a significant increase in vaping (in toilets), damage to property, more challenging student behaviour, school refusal and what has become known as internal truancy, whereby students are on site but refusing to attend specific lessons. For one reason or another, these issues have increased post lockdowns; they still involve a minority of students but they take up a lot of resources to manage and resolve.

We are fortunate at Vyners that the overwhelming majority of students and families are supportive of our ethos and values. As an example of this, I know that the majority of families understand the importance of high uniform standards with regards to a culture of high standards as well as ensuring that none of our students are being judged about their appearance based upon their attire. I must stress that we will continue to pay attention to these standards as well as work to ensure that students are polite and respectful towards each other as well as all other members of the community. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we will be investing in excess of £60,000 on our toilets this year, and will commit to further expenditure in subsequent years to ensure that our facilities are at a standard that our staff and students deserve. We are aware that there will still be a minority who will try to disrupt the majority but we remain committed to resolving issues and to further strengthening our school community.

### Industrial Action

Once again, I would like to apologise for the disruption caused by the latest day of industrial action which occurred yesterday. As a reminder, the members of the National Education Union (NEU) are in dispute with the Government and not the school or parents. There are two further back-to-back days scheduled for industrial action in

March. These are Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March. I think that it is fair to say that we hope that the dispute is resolved prior to these dates so that there will be no further disruption. I will write to parents and carers towards the end of next week to provide an update once we have gained more clarity about the situation.

### Sustainability Week:

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

This week Vyners School has been part of the whole VLT Sustainability Week. Within school we have been launching many different sustainable activities, highlighting the importance of saving our natural world.



The week began with a **torch relay** between the 5 trust schools, aimed at highlighting the importance of sustainable travel. We welcomed runners from Hermitage Primary school at midday on Monday and waved off our Cross

Country team and members of staff on their leg of the relay, the route of which took them the 7km from Vyners to Field End Junior School. They did an incredible job and received an incredible welcome from the Field End students. Well Done Team!



Year 7 and 8 students have been designing **sustainability posters** for the Eco Councils competition, the winners of which will have their designs printed in the next academic year's

school planners. The KS3 Geography Club has been hard at work, decorating our new **bird boxes** which will be placed in our woodland area.

A chosen group of year 7 students also participated in **wild flowering**, again enhancing our onsite woodland area.



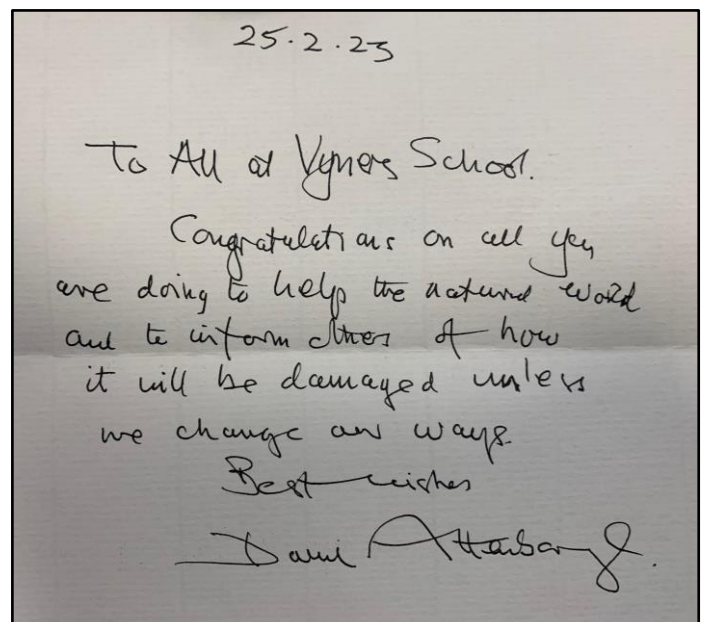
There have been many whole school initiatives. All students have been encouraged to reflect on their **sustainable fashion choices**. We have been discussing ways to reduce our contribution to the fast fashion industry and think about reusing or repurposing items. Our **'How high can we grow'** sunflower growing competition has begun, with students receiving free sunflower seeds after school assemblies with the aim to grow the tallest sunflower.

On Friday we launched the **'book swap'** campaign aimed at reusing books we no longer need or want. Staff and students donated their books at lunchtime and will have the opportunity to pick up another book on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March. All students have been **pledging sustainable acts** they will aim to keep this half term, all of which have been entered into our prize draw of which the winning student will win some very special sustainable prizes.

### How low can we go? - VLT initiative

Each student and staff member at Vyners School has been given a personalised code. I encourage all students, including their families, to pledge a sustainable act they will try to stick to over the next few weeks. Please fill in this [Google Form](#) to document your sustainable acts using the code your child has been given during tutorial time. This is a trust wide competition between the five schools - let's make Vyners School the most sustainable school in the trust!

Finally, to round off the week and the work the students have been completing, we received a very special letter from **Sir David Attenborough**. Miss Brown wrote to him last week to explain all of the different initiatives Vyners School was undertaking during sustainability week. He was impressed with our efforts and wrote a handwritten letter to the Vyners community, congratulating us on our hard work and to reiterate the message of the importance of preserving our natural world.





I encourage all students, staff, parents, carers, and other members of the school community to reflect on how we can all become more sustainable in our lives.

**Remember, a small change can make a big difference!**

Please click [\[here\]](#) to view the Sustainability Week page on the school website for more information, including details of the daily quizzes.

### Geography Club

KS3 geography club adventures. We started off a very small group of 3 in September and now we have grown to 8! I have no doubt we will continue too.

So far we have:

1. Built a volcano with paper mache, recycled plastic bottles and newspapers. We then painted it and exploded it outside using vinegar, red food colouring and baking soda (pupils bought from home). From the photo you would see we improvised from not having enough paint brushes and used tissue paper instead! Totally intentional.
2. We then went on to recreate the rock cycle using dark, white and milk chocolate (which was not consumed). Pupils again provided the chocolate which very shockingly was not being eaten at home.
3. For sustainability week we have been painting bird boxes outside.

Coming up I have many other really exciting activities planned such as creating their own fantasy island from rice grains and tea bags, fossil trilobites (with the help from Mr Heath) and a photo competition.



**Mrs Mohammed,  
Geography Department**

### Ski Trip

Over the half term the PE department led a fantastic Ski Trip to Austria.

Students from Year 11 to 13 enjoyed 5 days of glorious sunshine as they skied the Austrian slopes.



The students were an absolute credit to the school and made Mr Halls' job very easy running the trip. Well done to all the students for advancing skills or learning how to ski for the very first

time! Memories of a lifetime were made! Next year's trip will be launched before Easter.



### Elevate Education Workshop (Y7 & Y8)

Elevate education is a programme that provides schools with a range of useful resources tailored to revision.

In my Elevate workshop we talked about time management. We looked at many different ways to revise, such as making your own notes and summarising class notes. We also discussed breaking up assignments to make it more approachable. This is all very useful for beating procrastination.

I liked the workshop because they made it very clear on how you should revise and why. Knowing why really helped as it convinces you and makes you want to revise because you know the benefits. They taught us how to break assignments down which I really liked because sometimes they can feel impossible but when you put it into steps it no longer does. We also looked at how much you should revise allowing you to create a realistic and usable timetable. They also talked about balance and how to fun while also doing homework and revision which prevents burnout and getting into trouble. This again really helps with time management.

Since the workshop I have used some of their techniques which have really helped and aim to continue to use these leading up to tests.

**By Emma McCormick 7H**

Feedback from Year 7:

97% of students would recommend the programme.

97% found the programme time well spent.

Feedback from Year 8:

96% of students would recommend the programme.

95% found the programme time well spent.

World Book Day

This year, World Book Day was celebrated alongside sustainability week. Staff as well as year 7 and 8 students came in dressed as characters from books of their choice having either hired, borrowed or recycled their costumes! Activities took place during the week leading up to the day with our weekly reading for pleasure.

Many thanks to those who participated with the day.



**Ms Goode,  
Teacher of English & Literacy Coordinator**

### Which book has had the most impact on the world 2023?

At the end of last week, a group of Year 12 students delivered engaging, thought-provoking presentations to the rest of the Sixth Form. Their challenge? To persuade their fellow students that the book they presented on has had the most impact on the world.

The students invited us to consider the power of books: did Marie Stopes' book 'Married Love' revolutionise family life? Or does Shakespeare's collected works have a more important legacy in helping us understand the human condition? How have different scientific texts shaped the modern world? One group even made the case for 'The Rule Book of Association Football', arguing that this publication has influenced 'how we play the game of life'. It was fantastic to see the way the speakers communicated with great knowledge and passion; their audience really engaged with what they heard.

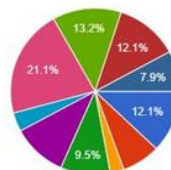
In response to what they heard, Year 12s and 13s were subsequently invited to vote on which book they had been

convinced was most influential, with Vyners Sixth Form decisively voting for the Magna Carta. Detailed results of

Based on what you heard in assembly, which book do you think has had most impact on the world? Cast your vote...

Copy

190 responses



● 'Principia Mathematica' Isaac Newton 1...  
 ● 'Married Love' Marie Stopes 1918  
 ● 'The Rule Book of Association Football'...  
 ● 'On the Origin of Species' Charles Dar...  
 ● 'Experimental Researches in Electricit...  
 ● 'The First Folio' William Shakespeare...  
 ● 'Magna Carta' Members of the English...  
 ● 'On the Abolition of the Slave Trade'...

▲ 1/2 ▼

this vote are below.

**Ms Connolly,  
English Department**

### Easter Camp

ACE Multisports, a new multi sports holiday camp provider for children aged 7 - 13 based in the borough of Hillingdon. ACE Multisports are ran by a team of experienced coaches and PE teachers with a range of sporting backgrounds looking to get kids active through exciting, fun and wide ranging sporting activities including; football, netball, basketball, volleyball, badminton, tennis, dodgeball, Gaelic football, baseball and cricket to name a few sports on offer.

Please see the attached leaflet for more information.

**Dates:** 13th - 14th April

**Where:** Vyners School

**Time:** 9am till 3pm (Early drop off/collection available)

**Price:** £25 a day or £45 two day booking

**Early Bird offer** - Book before the 15th March @ £20 a day

**Booking Site:** <https://bookwhen.com/acemultisports>

**Facebook Link:**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090355765149>

**Mr Hall,  
PE Department**

Wishing all families a wonderful weekend.

**Gary Mullings  
Headteacher**

## Headteacher Commendations

### Maths

Emma McCormick (7H)

### German

Lara Plesu (9F) Jeevan Bhambra (9J)  
Elizabeth Allen (9G) Amar Sidhu (9M)  
Emily To (9G) Caitlin White (9M)  
Dylan Everett (9H) Sahiba Bindra (9M)  
Nicholas Tilbury (9H) Shreya Kukadia (9P)  
Aniya Pannu (9J) Kena Domike (9J)  
Isabella Feroze 9J

### Youth Parliament

Eliza Bhatti (7H) Kaavye Sikka (9J)  
Emma McCormick (7H) Ali Mansoor (10G)  
Simran Jammu (7H) Shaza Nusrath (10H)  
Zoe Ava Clements (7H) Mika Assumption (10P)  
Zaina Ehsan (7P) Kacey Chapple (12C)  
Alisha Butt (9F) Devina Daby (12G)  
Hana Ahmed (9F) Jaspreet Minhas (12H)  
Jasleen Johal (9F) Sarah Clack (12H)  
Duaa Mohamed (9G)  
Avomo Mbasogo Mba Nguema (9H)

### Work Related Learning

Alexander Feneck (8J) Safirah Van Duin (8J)  
Angel Bhara (8J) Ilham Abou El Hassan (8M)  
Dion Vakani (8J) Kian Bentley (8M)  
Lexie Zannini (8J) Robbie Bedwell (8M)  
Riley Willans (8J) Thomas Bell (8M)

### Science Crest Award

Alexander Feneck (8J) Keisha Gohal (9H)  
Otto Keyte (8J) Isabella Feroze (9J)  
Ambar Dhaliwal (9C) Marli Pistorius (9J)  
Haydn Timms (9C) Rasheed Aldhahir (9M)  
Viya Shah (9C) Umar Farah (9P)  
Emaani Lateef (9F) Julie Tadmori (9W)  
Rafay Siddiki (9F) Zainab Shekoni (9W)  
Sean Coxwell (9F)

### Better Reading Partners

Ella Ferri (12C) Neha Baral (12C)  
Sienna Patel (12C) Sarah Clack (12H0)  
Hirva Patel (12M)  
Naomi Honda-Athenor (12C)  
Shadurjah Sivaprakash (12W)

### Careers Week

Wemi Adebajo (13C) Dev Sakaria (13H)  
Jaskaran Chauhan (13F) Sanam Joshi (13H)  
Fraser Brannigan (13G) Oli Edwards (13M)  
Rawd Shnaf (13G) Ranbir Singh Bedi (13M)  
Reyes Pollard (13G) Katie Ginger (13W)  
Delphine Ville (13H)

## Attendance

Weekly attendance figures by year group

Week ending 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Year Group	Weekly Attendance
Year 7	96.1%
Year 8	95.9%
Year 9	92.8%
Year 10	93.3%
Year 11	92.9%
Year 12	95.6%
Year 13	93.2%

Top 3 Tutorial weekly attendance

Week ending 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Tutorial	Weekly Attendance
12C	99.6%
7P	99.3%
12W	99.1%





# ACE MULTISPORTS

AGES  
7-13



13TH - 14TH APRIL



SPORTS CAMPS



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