

Headteacher's Update

17th March 2023

The two days of industrial action that occurred this week were logistically challenging given that we attempted to open the school for as many year groups as possible. Whilst we were disappointed that we were unable to accommodate students in Years 8 and 9 on either day, it was good to have students in Year 7 on site on Wednesday and Years 10 and 11 on Thursday. Selected Sixth Form lessons took place across the two days. We were unable to run all lessons on each day as usual. However, we were able to rearrange some activities that were planned for later in the year, which will allow us to regain curriculum time at a later stage. In particular, students in Year 7 were able to complete mock national assessments in English and Maths with the national tests taking place in the summer term, whilst students in Year 10 had the opportunity to watch a production by a theatre company linked to the [Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation](#), which is a drug education charity.

As mentioned previously, we hope that the dispute between the NEU and the Government can be resolved as soon as possible and that there is no further disruption to school during this or any other academic year. Whilst it would be remiss of me to comment on many of the issues related to this dispute, I would like parents and carers to be aware that there is a recruitment and retention crisis in the education sector that does need to be resolved. This is particularly acute in some subjects where there are very few staff currently in certain roles in the profession and extremely low numbers applying for initial teaching training places at universities. It should also be noted that whilst this is a national problem, the cost of living in and around London does mean that graduates are looking further afield for teaching roles and many currently living and working in London are relocating further north. Recruiting and retaining high quality staff remains an absolute priority at Vyners. I really do appreciate the support that parents provide to our staff that contributes to the rewarding and positive experience that my colleagues have at the school.

GCSE and A Level Media Studies

We are delighted to be able to inform parents and carers of students studying Media Studies that Mr West has joined us as of this week, to cover Miss Parson's timetable during her period of maternity leave. Mr West has several years of experience teaching both English and Media and has already made a positive impression on the students. We warmly welcome Mr West to Vyners and wish Miss Parsons the very best throughout her period of leave.

A Level Politics Students Broadcast on Times Radio

On Wednesday 8th March, Associate Assistant Headteacher, Mr Beale took three Sixth Form Politics students, Ciara Davies (12C), Annabel Gleinister (12M) and William Parker (12G), to appear on Times Radio's Matt Chorley show with a focus of talking about Prime Minister's Questions. Initially they had been told that this would be a short slot before PMQs began; instead the students were on air for over an hour. The students were superb in providing live analysis of Rishi Sunak & Keir Starmer's interactions. The group were then treated to a tour of the New UK building. The staff at the station were so impressed with the students that they have all been offered the chance of work experience.

Links to the programme have been provided via YouTube ([click here](#)) and via a podcast ([click here](#)). Very well done to all involved.



UK CanSat Competition Regional Event

In the Autumn Term, the Science Department at Vyners registered two teams from the Year 10 cohort to represent the school at the **UK CANSAT** competition which is organised by The **European Space Agency**. In January, two Year teams (Vyners Science Lab Team (VSLT) and Team Argo) progressed to the second round to compete with schools from across London and neighbouring counties. On Friday 3rd March, both teams tested their satellite at **Westcott Venture Park**, Aylesbury. I am pleased to announce that Team Argo satellite completed many aspects of the mission. The Science department would like to thank Computing and DT Departments for their continuous support with the project.

We are eagerly waiting for the results and, if successful, the team will progress to the national competition which will be taking place on 25th-27th April. The competition winner from the national event will then be competing against European countries, Canada, Slovenia, Latvia and Lithuania in the final stage.

Mr Peran and Dr Abbas, Science Department



Mars Day 2023

This week the Science department celebrated Mars Day with the KS3 students. It is vital to celebrate the discoveries of the last year from both Perseverance and Ingenuity and consider the next steps to search for evidence of life on Mars. Students analyse the realism of this Martian based on today's knowledge of Mars environment, discuss the popularity of Mars in literature and make an inference about the possibility of life on Mars based on data obtained. It was amazing to see all the students engaged in the activities and participating in an intriguing discussion about the signs of life.

Mr Peran, Science Department



Maths Inspiration Trip - Year 12 - 7th March

Last Tuesday, 27 students travelled to the Hexagon Theatre in Reading for the "Maths Inspiration" show. It was a fast paced and interactive event, where speakers demonstrated how maths can be used in a variety of interesting contexts, from climate science to boomerang flight. At the end of the show, some of our students took the opportunity to speak to, and take pictures with, Matt Parker (author and internet mathematician). A great fun and inspiring day.

Mrs Cox, Maths Department

Informative as well as fun, the entire class had found the maths trip, to our surprise, very enjoyable. The talks they gave did not bore us at any moment and had the entire audience's undivided attention. Although this trip was primarily for educational purposes, I found it to be one of the most enjoyable trips I have had throughout my years at Vyners. Each of the three lectures explained their concepts (although they were complex) in such a way that the audience would easily understand everything that was being told to them. Overall, I am certain that none of the class regretted the time we spent that day and would be happy to go to any events such as this in the future.

Shaheer Azizi, Year 12 Student

Peterhouse College Visit

On Wednesday 1st March, 13 Year 10 students visited Peterhouse, the oldest College at the University of Cambridge. Students were given the opportunity to develop their understanding of what it's like to live and study at University by speaking to current undergraduate students and discussing post-16 options and career paths with University admissions staff.

Thank you to Mrs Cox and Mrs Woodbury for leading this activity and well done to all students involved for representing the school in such a fine manner.

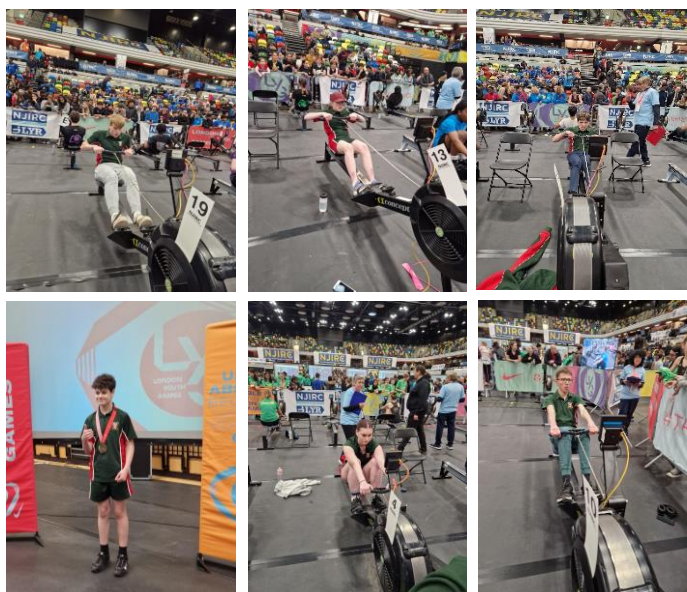


Sports Update

Rowing

Vyners represented Hillingdon at the London Youth Games Indoor Rowing Finals in February. The team consisted of one boy and girl from Year 7-11. All competitors were a credit to the school and not only that competed against the best rowers in London.

All competitors finished inside the top ten with Tom Cheesebrough in Year 7 winning the LYG Year 7 Boys final. Well done to all involved; Year 7 - Catherine G, Tom C. Year 8 - Nathan G, Sophia C Year 9 - Caleb W, Grace Barrell Year 10 - Issy S, Morgan G Year 11 - Alice D, Jacob C. Well done All!



This week we thought that we'd also share a picture of Ryan Taylor (7P) participating in motocross, which is any activity that he is clearly excelling in. We are always pleased when parents and carers share their child's sporting successes with us as this provides us with the opportunity to learn more about our students and celebrate their achievements with them. Well done, Ryan!



Bookshelfies

The House Event for Vyners this half term is House English. All students and staff are encouraged to venture up to the LRC to look at the incredible range of images of bookshelves from the Vyners community. The competition requires students to fill in a form, also in the LRC, simply trying to match the person to their bookshelf. Look out for red herrings! Prizes include portable phone charges and a handmade cake baked by Mr Kunig. As well as many

points made available for your House. Deadlines closes on 24th March.

A big thank you to House Captains who once more have been brilliant supporting the younger students.

Mr Kunig, English Department

House English Bookshelfies

What You Need to Do:
This year, for House English, all you need to do is the following:

1. Make your way to the LRC.
2. Fill out the form, aligning each bookshelf to its owner.
3. But the form in this box!

Deadline: Friday 24th March

First Prize:
Portable Phone Charger

Second Prize:
Portable Phone Charger

Third Prize:
Handmade cake baked by Mr Kunig

Every entry will contribute to House Points.
95 - 100 % Accuracy 100 points
70 - 95 % Accuracy 80 points
50 - 70 % Accuracy 50 points
25 - 50 % Accuracy 20 points
10% - 25 % Accuracy 10 points

Launch of the 'Book Swap' Bookcase

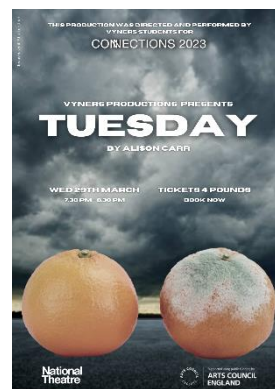
On the back of our Sustainability Week, we have introduced a new bookcase in the lower canteen. This has been introduced to enable students to swap books, for free, with fellow students. Much like facilities seen on campsites, in hotels (and even in old phone boxes!), readers can drop off books that they no longer wish to keep and pick up some new reading material that catches their eye.

Should families have any books at home suitable for teenage readers that they would like to donate, please drop off at school reception - or simply ask your son / daughter to add them to the bookcase!

Miss Williams, Business Manager

School Play 'Tuesday' - Wednesday 29th March

The play centres on an ordinary Tuesday that suddenly turns very weird indeed when a tear rips across the sky over the school. It starts sucking up pupils and staff while at the same time raining down a whole new set of people. But then, that's what happens when parallel worlds collide! Tickets are on sale with Ticketsource [\[here\]](#)



Mrs Moore, Drama Department

Sustainability Week

As part of the environmental sustainability week, we would like our students, with family members if they choose, to help capture our Trust's commitment to environmental sustainability through words and an image. Students have until Thursday 23rd March 2023 to enter two competitions which involve writing a slogan and/or producing a visual image. Students can enter both competitions if they wish. Please click [here](#) for information on how to enter.

Friends of Vyners

Friends of Vyners are also holding a Quiz Night on Friday 24th March 2023. Please see the attachment for further details. Additional information and a link to the Friends of Vyners website can be found on the school website [\[click here\]](#).

The FoV '100 Club' has been an incredibly successful fundraising tool for our parents' organisation and has helped to provide our students with a wide range of facilities and resources that are often difficult to acquire from within our main school budget.

Congratulations to all of the recent prize winners from the Friends of Vyners '100 Club' draws. Please click [\[here\]](#) to see the January 2023 winner.

If you wish to participate in the '100 Club' then please complete the application form [\[click here\]](#) and forward it to 100club@friendsofvyners.co.uk.

Multi Sports Holiday 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.

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 19th March @ £20 a day

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

Facebook Link:

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

Headteacher Commendations

Drama

Millie Sowby (7J)

German

Leena Almutari (10P)

Naya Lotay (10P)

Pastoral

Padraig Mueses Furlong (10F)

Science

Selina Dattani (9J)

Billy Hill (10C)

Work Related Learning

Jaunita Bester (8M)

Trinity Campbell (8M)

Jayna Chavda (8M)

Zayn Chowdhry (8M)

Kieran Gillar (8M)

Jacob Goodridge (8M)

Taher Gulamabbass (8M)

Marina Hedges-Hassanali (8M)

Aanyaa Jajodia (8M)

Evie Jordan (8M)

Ollie Kosak-Hine (8M)

Raul Dixon-Smith (8M)

Lola Mendoza (8M)

Anay Patel (8M)

Khivi Rai (8M)

Attendance

Weekly attendance figures by year group

Week ending 10th March 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 10th March 2023

Tutorial	Weekly Attendance
7G	99.4%
7H	99.0%
9F	98.7%



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AGES
7-13



13TH - 14TH APRIL



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FriendsOfVyners

F.O.V. QUIZ NIGHT (with Fish & Chips)

Friday 24th March 2023

Friends of Vyners quiz nights are fun, not too serious & not too hard...

Open to anyone including students in years 9 & above. Feel free to bring friends & family!

Prizes for all winning team members and a **RAFFLE** to raise funds for FOV (additional raffle prize donations always gratefully accepted).

Maximum team size is 8 – come along as a team or join up with others on the night.

Doors open 7.30pm & the quiz starts at 8pm

Please bring your own drinks and pre-dinner nibbles

Advance reservations preferable (via e-mail or phone) to aid with catering, however you may just come along on the evening. CASH ONLY payment to be made on the door.

PLEASE NOTE CONTACT DETAILS:

Ticket Hotline Number text or phone: 07973 297056

E-mail: haganhurst47@btinternet.com

Information required:

Party name/Total number of people in party/Provisional food order (may be changed on the night)/Name & e-mail or phone for confirmation

Fish & Chips & Quiz ticket @ £14.00: Number required: _____

Chicken & Chips & Quiz ticket @ £13.00: Number required: _____

Sausage & Chips & Quiz ticket @ £12.00: Number required: _____

Veggie Burger & Chips & Quiz ticket @ £14.00: Number required: _____

Chips only & Quiz ticket @ £10.00: Number required: _____

Quiz ticket only @ £8.00: Number required: _____

Student Quiz ticket only @ £3.00: Number required: _____