



Headteacher's Update

28th April 2023

The start to the summer term already feels quite disjointed due to a mixture of strike action days as well as the additional public holiday for the King's Coronation. We are working incredibly hard to try to ensure continuity of education for all of our students, although, as mentioned in my letter earlier in the week, it is disappointing that students in years 8 and 9 have not been able to attend school on the strike days at any point since the process began. Unfortunately, there seems to be no sign of a breakthrough in this dispute and it is anticipated that it may well continue into the autumn term. I am aware of how frustrating this is for parents and carers as several have contacted the school with this regard. However, I would continue to stress that the staff who have chosen to take industrial action are in dispute with the government and not the school and in such circumstances where we have significant numbers of the teaching staff taking industrial action we have no choice but to partially close the school.

I want to express my sincere thanks to Miss Powick and her team for their persistence and resilience that enabled the Netball tour to Disneyland Paris to be a huge success despite the dramatic first day of travel. Unfortunately, the group were caught up in the issues that took place at Dover on Sunday 2nd April, enduring queues at the port for approximately 16 hours. With the coach driver unable to drive beyond the maximum allowance, the group were faced with the prospect of abandoning the trip (as many school parties did). However, the tour operator did a great job in finding a nearby hotel for an overnight stay for the group before returning to the port on Monday morning and successfully travelling to the venue. A brilliant job by all involved and my congratulations to the students who, I have been reliably informed, managed the situation in an exemplary manner throughout.

I would also like to give my personal congratulations to Dr Abbas, Mr Peran and the VS Labs team for their participation in the national finals of the UK CANSAT competition that took place in York this week. This was both a marvellous achievement and experience for these students as they competed alongside students from across the country in this prestigious STEM competition.

Today, we say a fond farewell to Laurence Seabridge as he is retiring after 19 years of service at Vyners as our Facilities Manager. Throughout that time, Laurence has taken great pride in ensuring that the facilities at the school remain at a high standard and the quality of his craftsmanship has continued to be first class right up to his

very last working day. We wish Laurence a long and happy retirement and wish him a successful permanent relocation to his home on the south coast.

Whilst we are incredibly sad to be saying farewell to Laurence, we are delighted to have been able to appoint Louis Clark as the new Facilities Manager. Louis is a great fit for the school and we look forward to a long and productive relationship with the school community.

It was incredibly disappointing to learn that some families of children in Year 11 chose to support their child's absence from school on Thursday. I made it absolutely clear to all students of the importance of the attendance during the two strike days, particularly given the fact that a significant amount of planning had taken place to ensure that this year group was prioritised on these days and that there was high quality provision in place. I will also add that much of the fantastic work that has been undertaken by the pastoral teams at the school to ensure that our attendance rates are close to pre-pandemic levels appears to have been significantly undermined by these actions. Given that this is the case I would stress that if your child is in Year 11 and not genuinely ill on this coming Tuesday then they are expected to attend school as normal.

I would also like to extend my sincere apologies to local residents for the disruption that was caused on Warren Road when the coaches returned from the An Inspector Calls trip on Thursday evening. With regard to this, I would again stress to parents and carers that it is important to be considerate to local residents when travelling into the area around the school and that it is unacceptable to be parking on zig zag lines, sounding horns, etc. particularly late into the evening. The support of parents and carers would be greatly appreciated in such matters.

Riot Act Road Safety Presentation

This week, all students in Year 7 participated in a road safety presentation and workshop led by *The Riot Act* production group. The performance was part of the School Travel and Road Safety (STARS) strategy that is being successfully led by Mr Heath in the Geography department. I am also pleased to be able to inform parents and carers that there will also be bus etiquette sessions taking place on this coming Tuesday for all Year 7 students, which will be led by Officers from the Metropolitan Police in association with Transport for

London (TfL). I would also like to thank the students from the STARS leadership team for their whole school assemblies this week that focused on active travel as well as Ibrahim Khalid (7H) for his reflections (see below) on the Riot Act performance.



The Road safety workshop was incredibly funny and entertaining. It had a really good message whilst being super engaging. I learnt that you should always put your phone away when walking on the pavement and be weary of your surroundings. I also learnt that even if it means to walk a little bit more you should always cross the road where it is safe like a zebra crossing. Overall, it was a wonderful presentation, which I enjoyed immensely. Thank you to the Riot Act Team!

Ibrahim Khalid (7H)

Thank you to the parents of some students in Year 9 who have written to me regarding home learning and marking. I would very much like to respond to the letter directly and therefore would appreciate an email address to respond to. On a more general note, I would like to again thank parents and carers who provided feedback that has allowed us to develop our home learning policy this year. We are currently in the implementation phase and will be seeking further feedback in the autumn term.

UK CanSat Competition National Final Results 2023

Following a successful regional CanSat event in March, Vyners Science Lab Team was selected for the national final event. The event took place this week beginning on Tuesday 25th April and concluded on Thursday 27th April at the STEM Learning Center in York.

During the finals, the teams were evaluated on an ongoing basis, via submitted reports and presentations during the final, with **Technical achievement, Scientific Value, Professional Competencies and Outreach** taken into account. We are pleased to announce that Vyners

Science Lab Team has been awarded the Best Outreach Prize in the UK CanSat Competition. The team communicated the project to the school and the local community using various platforms, e.g. KS4 assembly, school newsletters, distributing posters with QR at Hillingdon library and local restaurants etc. It is an amazing achievement considering the team was the youngest in this year's competition and competed against a number of independent schools. It is worth mentioning that the winners of the national competition will travel to a European event at the European Space Agency and that the winners of that stage of the competition will have their satellite launched into space.

Well done to all of the staff and students involved. We would also like to thank the Computing and Design Technology departments for supporting students throughout the academic year.

Team VS Lab

Ross Bell (10J)

Khaled Chouman (10C)

Joud Mohammad (10F)

Freddie Sleet (10C)

Vanessa Daoud (10J; not in the picture)

Roselle Taylor (10J)



Dr Abbas and Mr Peran, Science Department

House English

A huge thank you to all students and staff who took part in the House English events over Easter. Students were required to match the 'Bookshelfies' to the member of staff who they thought owned them. Congratulations to the three winning entries: First was achieved by Sophie Wilkinson (12H), whilst in second place was awarded to Ryan Hodgkinson (13W) and in third place was Sophie Greenfield (8C). This means that the current points for each house is as follows:

House	Total
Cheshire	286
Fry	82
Gell	198
Huxley	324
Jaggar	180
John Miles	116
Parks	182
Windsor	408

Don't forget to continue to participate in House Events!

**Mr Kunig,
House System and Student Voice Coordinator**

Learn with the Lords

On Friday, 21st of April, the Youth MPs here at Vyners met with Lord Knight of Weymouth. Lord Knight spoke with students and answered their questions online about life in public service, how Parliament works, what it was like working as Education Secretary under Tony Blair and what his day looks like as a Lord. Lord Knight mentioned that he was impressed with the quality of the questioning from our students and left hopeful that young people were eager to engage in the world around them as active citizens. A big thank you to all students involved and represented our school so proudly.



Mr Kunig, House System and Student Voice Coordinator

Disneyland Paris Netball Tour

During the Easter Holidays the PE department took 40 students to Disneyland Paris on a netball tour. The beginning of the trip didn't exactly go to plan and after a 16 hour delay at Dover, we were forced to make an overnight stay nearby to Dover and make a second attempt for the ferry the following morning. Thankfully we got the ferry crossing we needed the following morning and were in Disneyland before we knew it.

The netball was a great success with all 4 teams competing fantastically well. Our Year 10 and 11 teams qualified for the top tier cup competition and, after a tense final, our Year 10s finished runners up and Year 11s finished in 7th place. Our Year 8 and 9 teams qualified for the second tier shield competition with Year 9 finishing runners up and Year 8s finishing in 3rd place.

The trip finished with a full day in Disneyland, filled with rollercoasters, meeting the characters and buying a coach load of cuddly Disney toys. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all, including the teachers. The trip was a fantastic experience for the girls who were a credit to themselves and Vyners and hopefully made wonderful memories!

Miss Powick, Assistant Subject Leader PE



Donation

I would like to thank Darwin Technologies for their generous donation to the photography and drama department recently and particularly to Mrs Oona Gaffney for taking the time to deliver the items to the school. The items (listed below) will directly benefit our learners within these departments so we are incredibly appreciative of this act of generosity.

- 2x microphones in boxes (Rode & Apogee)
- 2x small camera's one with box (Cannon & Lumix)
- 1x selfie stick in box
- 2x camcorders in case's
- 7x tripods. Sony, Neewer, Velbon in boxes or bags
- Fog machine

Headteacher Commendations

English

Mahdi Isse (8F) Finley Kanyua (8P)
Freddie Sleet (10C) Mia Lawson (10C)
Courtney New (10F) Fearn Stockwell (10F)
Holly McCay (10F) Rosie Taylor (10J)
Finley Pitts (10M) Orla Lepley (10M)
Henry Atkinson (10W) Alex Janssen (12C)
Ciara Davies (12C) Holly Bell (12F)
Stanley Raison (12M) Dyllan Keane (12W)
Annabel Glenister (12M)

French

Dana Dildar (7C) Sehar Chopra (7C)
Sleiman Basma (7F) Ellen Daffern (7G)
Isolde Ryan (7H) Maisie Stirling (7M)
Daria Rohnean (7P) Hiva Mohamad (7P)
Veer Jhita (7P) Amelie Wootton (7W)
Charlotte Dwyer (8G) Izzy Ntusi (8G)
Celina Villaescusa Bandera (7J)

German

Freya Cartwright (7C) Harry Boxall (7G)
Jeevan Samrai (7J) Joe Purser (7J)
Lois Ross (7M) Nina Heidari (7M)
Layla Quraishi (7W) Parth Joshi (7W)
Sara Alves (7W) Catherine Gallagher (7W)

Maths

Ava Queenan (7M) Jessica Wells (8F)
Poppy Oliver (8G) Anay Patel (8M)
Konrad Oleniacz (8W) Anton Rogatin (9G)
Dylan Everett (9H) Frank Kelly (10H)
Izzy Lambourne (10J) Rihanna Ciobotar (10W)

Pastoral

Logan De'ath (8F) Sienna Barton (8W)
Hanif Dryden (9H) Kate Walker (9W)
Khaled Chouman (10C) Melia Gaynor-Palmer (10G)
Zia Khan (11M) Mahnoor Khan (12M)
Nadeem Tabche (12W) Shaheer Aziz (12W)
Fraser Brannigan (13G) Delphine Ville (13H)

Photography

Ellie Carragher (12W)

Work Related Learning

Aahil Salman (8P) Ben L'anson (8P)
Eason Woodhouse (8P) Kavan Jandub (8P)
Simrath Josan (8P) Finley Kanyua (8P)
George Kell (8P) Cori Kirbi (8P)
Suren Kukadia (8P) Sara Mirza (8P)
Jaipal Puar (8P) Rahna Nusrath (8P)
Jordan Ramsey (8P) Ria Sohanpal (8P)
Anya Sachdeva (8P) Iwan Sheehan (8P)
Siofra Smith (8P) Sion Keane (8P)
Sophia Vaughan (8P)

Attendance

Weekly attendance figures by year group
Week ending 21st April 2023

Year Group	Attendance
Year 7	92.8%
Year 8	90.2%
Year 9	92.4%
Year 10	90.2%
Year 11	92.2%
Year 12	92.8%
Year 13	89.0%

Top 3 Tutorial weekly attendance
Week ending 21st April 2023

Tutorial	Attendance
13C	96.9%
7H	96.7%
10H	95.9%