



Headteacher's Update

26th May 2023

I am delighted that the feedback so far has been that students in Year 11 and 13 have made an extremely positive start to the examination season. Our Year 13s enjoyed the traditional fancy dress and final assembly last Monday before starting their official period of study leave, whilst students in Year 11 will officially start their study leave after their leaver's assembly that will be taking place today. We are very much aware that this continues to be a challenging time for some students. However, the fact that they are on study leave does not prevent them from making contact with staff at the school and maintaining ongoing support. We will continue to be there until we are no longer required.

With the departure of our Year 11 and 13 cohorts, May half term is traditionally the time when schools start to make the transition into the next academic year. This is something that I have spoken to students about in recent assemblies, particularly the idea of the students transitioning into the next stage of their education. One example of this is Year 10 where the students now become the most senior cohort in the main school. One way that we encourage them to embrace this change is to apply to become a prefect. This year, we are looking for a broad range of students to engage in the prefect programme, to support the school and wider community and also gain the opportunity to develop their own leadership skills and abilities. Student leadership is highly regarded at Vyners and I would ask parents and carers to support this where possible by encouraging their child to apply for prefect and other leadership roles, where possible. I will also add that I am delighted that twenty six students have applied for the Sixth Form executive positions including Head Girl and Head Boy, which represents over twenty per cent of the cohort.

Ryefield Ofsted Report

I would like to warmly congratulate Mr Tucker as well as the staff, governors, parents and students on their most recent Ofsted report that was published recently. The report can be found [\[here\]](#). Parents

and carers who are new to the school may be unaware that the Vanguard Learning Trust (originally the Vyners Learning Trust), started out with just the two schools, Vyners and Ryefield, with the local governing body at the primary school at the time seeking to benefit from working with Vyners. Mr Tucker was appointed as Headteacher shortly after the formation of the trust and since that time, both the school and the trust have gone from strength to strength. The timing of this report is also positive news given that Oak Farm primary has also very recently become the latest school to adopt associate membership of the trust. Congratulations to all involved.

Stranger Danger

Following on from the report of a student being approached by a stranger in the local area this week, we have also been informed of an individual acting suspiciously in the area during the past two days. Parents and carers shouldn't be overly alarmed by such reports and this type of behaviour is extremely rare. However, it is timely to share reminders about walking home in public areas (rather than secluded areas such as woods, etc.) and ensuring, where possible, that children walk home from school with groups or friends.

Transport Issues

A number of schools across Hillingdon have been contacted this week about the way that some students are conducting themselves at tube stations when travelling to and from school. Amongst the key issues are fare evasion and, linked to this, forcing their way through the disabled barriers, which causes significant damage and cost. Transport for London (TFL) also wishes to remind parents and students that bus travel is free for school aged children, so they are able to travel for free anywhere in London using buses without damaging property in TFL stations. TFL offers a zip card for students aged 11 to 15, which grants these students free bus travel and cheaper fares on the tube. Given the nature of this

communication, I would be extremely grateful if parents of students who do travel into the area by tube are made aware of this information. I would also like parents and carers to be aware that we will, as a school, be sending staff to the local stations at key times in the day to support TFL with spot checks. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Lord Mayor of London's Children's Party

On 15th April, one of our Drum Teachers, Kev Miles, invited two of our Sixth Form students, William Goodwin and Rachael Hunter to play with the Mansion House Minions at the Lord Mayor of London's Children's Party. This is an event put on for approximately 400 children around London with a party atmosphere playing all the children's favourites as well as some more formal pieces. Both performed exceptionally well and have already received an invite to perform again at next year's event. Well done to both and thank you to Kev Miles for providing them the opportunity to perform professionally at such a great event.



Mr Cullum, Subject Leader - Music

Languages Lunch

On Wednesday 17th May, the Languages department held a special lunch to reward students for their hard work throughout the year. Two students from each year group in each language were invited. Students got the opportunity to try a range of Spanish, French and German food.

Well done to: Aanya Bhica, Emma McCormick, Katie Gardner, Jenna Natarajan, James Worley, Ruby Farrington, Panagiotis Giannouloupoulos, Julia Heuchert, Parth Joshi, Amber Suggi, Otto Keyte, Shivam Pankhania, Isabella Feroze, Harriet Raycheva, Chiddi Dominike, Dhairye Gauri, Caelin Gibbons, Veer Jhita, Nathan Griffiths, Jujhar Khurana, Kaayve Sikka, Avomo Mgbasogo Mba Nguema, Vanessa Daoud and Ross Bell.

The event was extremely successful, we will be doing more lunches next year to reward even more of you!



Well done to all!

Miss Vigo, Deputy Head of MFL

Supercurriculum Winners

Two weeks ago in assembly I spoke to students in Years 7-10 about the importance of engaging with their 'Vyners Learning Journey' as well as their supercurriculum. It's helpful to understand the clear distinction between these two terms.

The supercurriculum is designed to support and extend students' learning beyond the classroom in their various school subjects. Suggested activities have been made by each department in links accessible to parents and carers via the parent zone of the school website. Students can undertake a task and then show their subject teacher proof of this experience and teachers can then log merits for these. A list of the latest spring term prize winners for the termly supercurriculum prize can be found below. These are the students with the most supercurriculum merits each term. The first prize is £50 to spend on a cultural activity or learning experience. The second and third prizes are £20 to spend and the fourth prize is £10 to spend. 5th-10th place earns students a canteen queue jump pass for themselves and a friend. All of the steps for the Vyners Learning Journey are connected to the skills, qualities and attributes that we encourage all students at Vyners to aspire to develop over the course of their time here. These include aspects of leadership development, understanding your career journey and the skills needed to become a successful and well-rounded citizen beyond school. These are all underpinned by our CARE values of community, aspiration, respect and endeavour. Tutors are invited to nominate termly prize winners and, again, our spring term winners are listed below.

I hope you will encourage your sons or daughters to strive to win some of these awards at the end of the summer term.

Tutor Group	Spring Award Winners
7C	Aanya Bhica
7F	Millie Lamerton
7G	Ellen Daffern
7H	Hibbah Shahzad
7J	Celina Bandera Villaescusa
7M	Kara Patel

7P	Zaina Eshan
7W	Karim Mushtaq
8C	Nuala Borley
8F	Nathan Griffiths
8G	Katie Gardener
8H	Abdullah Nojourn
8J	Lara Colgan
8M	Vaneesha Shienh
8P	Siofra Smith
8W	Benji Hampshire
9C	Amy Fairbank.
9F	Jasleen Johal
9G	Ashmeet Viridi
9H	Keira Smith
9J	Kaave Sikka
9M	Caitlin White
9P	Shreya Kukadia
9W	Paige Warner
10C	Matin Oghabi
10F	Padraig Mueses Furlong
10G	Ali Mansoor
10H	Franklin Rowlands
10J	Vanessa Daoud
10M	Farah Dallal
10P	Jonas Petrokas
10W	Harry Francis
11C	Hannah Panesar
11F	Veronika Voloshchuck
11G	Libby Gallear
11H	Aadi Alangh
11M	Chloe Tutin
11W	Robyn Kell

Miss Pape, Assistant Headteacher

Catering Update

Our catering partner, Cucina, are just coming to the end of their first year with us. We have therefore taken some time to get feedback from students as to how they are doing. I would like to extend my thanks to every student who took the time to fill in the Google survey just before Easter, and to our representatives of Student Voice who met with Cucina in person last week.

Parents may be interested to read the 'You said, we did' document [\[click here\]](#) which has been circulated to students this week. It aims to answer some of the questions that repeatedly came up.

Student Voice made the point to us that the £5 limit on the cashless catering system is a problem for some. This limit has not been raised in the 10 years since the school went cashless and its value, in purchasing terms, has of course decreased. Parents were consulted 12 months ago about whether this limit should be increased. The overwhelming majority of parents asked for it to remain at its current level. Even with price inflation, £5 enables a student to buy something substantial for lunch, plus a small cake at break. However it is no longer enough to cover multiple grab and go items.

Students have been encouraged to speak to their parents about an appropriate limit in their case. If you would like your child's limit raised, this can be done by the school on a case-by-case basis. Simply email me at kwilliams@vynersschool.org.uk

Miss Williams, Business Manager

CREST Awards

Congratulations to our CREST Award students (group A) who have achieved their Bronze award certificates. The CREST is a scheme that 'inspires young people to think and behave like scientists'. It has provided our students with the opportunity to choose their own subject and methodology in order to complete their own hands-on investigation. We are absolutely delighted that we have so many students who actively engage in STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths), and we very much congratulate the students involved in this round of investigations on the completion of their bronze awards.



Marli Pistorius (9J), Viya Shah (9C), Isabella Feroze (9J), Julie Tadmori (9W), Emaani Lateef (9F), Rasheed Aldhahir (9M), Rafay Siddiki (9F), Omar Farah (9P), Shaun Coxwell (9F), Haydn Timmins (9C), Otto Keyte (8J), Alex Feneck (8J), Ambar Dhaliwal (9C), Keisha Gohel (9H)

Mrs Ehsan, Teacher of Science

Employment Opportunities at Vyners

We are currently recruiting for the following support, term-time only vacancies:

- Learning Support Assistant - SEN
- Learning Support Assistant - HIRB
- Learning Cover Supervisor / Aspirant Teacher
- Art & Photography Technician (4mth initial contract)

For more information and an application form please refer to the Vacancies page on our website [\[click here\]](#). Completed application forms should be emailed to recruitment@vynersschool.org.uk. Closing date for these positions is Tuesday 13th June.

Attendance

Weekly attendance figures by year group
Week ending 19th May 2023

Year Group	% Attendance
Year 7	94.9
Year 8	95.4
Year 9	94.8
Year 10	92.0
Year 11	82.7
Year 12	97.1
Year 13	Study Leave

Wishing all of our families a wonderful half term break.

Gary Mullings
Headteacher