

Weekly Vyne Bulletin

Headteacher's Headlines 16th September 2016

It has been great to see how well our Year 7 students have settled in to the school and whilst it is no doubt challenging for them to keep up with all the new routines, they are making a good transition to Vyners. It has been particularly challenging in the extreme heat this week with their blazers and numerous bags but they have managed well. On Wednesday they had their Co-Curricular fayre which gave them the opportunity to find out about the array of clubs and activities on offer to them outside of lessons. There was a fantastic buzz in the school hall and their challenge now is to try to organise their time and narrow down their options. The expectation is that every student participates in at least one co-curricular club and commits to it for at least a term.

It was a real privilege to welcome back one of our alumni as guest of honour at our annual Awards Evening last night. Sue Cook attended the school from 1961-1967 as one of the first cohorts when the school first opened. After graduating from the University of Leicester she went on to become one of the UK's most experienced and popular broadcasters. Sue's career began as a producer, presenter and DJ for Capital Radio. From there, she was headhunted by the BBC where she presented a range of programmes and documentaries for Radio 1, 2 and 4. In 1978 Sue moved across to television and has been a familiar face on many popular BBC shows including the groundbreaking Nationwide, Breakfast Time and more recently, The One Show. Her interviewees have encompassed politicians and celebrities ranging from Arthur Scargill to Archbishop Tutu and from James Stewart to Michael Caine. In November 1982, and every November for the next thirteen years, Sue co-hosted the BBC's annual Children in Need appeal night with the late Sir Terry Wogan. In the summer of 1984 she and Nick Ross launched Crimewatch



UK, which she presented until 1996. Sue has gone on to publish two novels and still finds time to support a number of charities.

Sue spoke to the audience about her fond memories of her time at Vyners including freezing cold trips to the outdoor swimming pool at Uxbridge, metalwork and engineering classes and the inspirational teachers that helped shape her. She reassured the students that she was a 'spindly eleven year old girl' who lacked self-belief but by being given the confidence to 'plough her own furrow' and believe that anything was possible, went on to achieve incredible success. Our Head Girl, Jasleen Chaggar gave an accomplished vote of thanks on behalf of the students, saying that the fact that Sue had walked the same corridors, sat in the same classrooms as they were doing now, inspired them to aspirational goals. The event was a wonderful occasion and I would like to congratulate all the award winners for their commitment and dedication over the last academic year. Thank you also to Dr Malhi, Mrs Boyes, the Premises team, Lee Sansom Year 11 and Oliver Latham Year 9 for all their work in organising the event.

I am delighted to report that the DfE has today announced that our collaborative bid with Haydon, Northwood, Ruislip High and Queensmead schools, to open a new secondary school, Hillingdon High, has been granted approval by the Secretary of State for Education. This reflects the commitment of these founding member schools to establish another high-performing school in the North Hillingdon area to help address the shortage of places for 11-18 year olds. Our application had the support and confidence of local residents who expressed their preference for a non-selective, inclusive school. The next phase will be for a site to be identified. The Headteachers and Academy Trusts of the five schools will now work closely with the DfE, EFA and Local Authority to secure a suitable location and begin the process of establishing the Governing Body of the school. This is likely to be a long process and this announcement marks the first step in the pre-opening phase for the new Free School. I will be writing to parents next week with further information and more details will emerge in the coming weeks as we liaise with the DfE.

Many thanks

James Heale
Headteacher



Important Dates for the Diary

September

Fri 23 Sept 7.30pm -

Friends of Vyners Quiz Night

Tues 27 Sept 6.00pm - Years 12 & 13

Parents Evening - Raising Achievement

October

Wed 5 Oct 6.00pm -

Junior School Open Evening

Thur 13 Oct 6.00pm - Friends of

Vyners Year 7 Cheese and Wine Evening
/ Parental Feedback Forum

Fri 21 Oct - Year 11 Careers Day

HALF TERM

Monday 24 - Friday 28 October 2016

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

YEARS 7 & 12

Will be taken on Monday 26 September

SIBLING PHOTOGRAPHS - ALL YEARS

If you have more than one child at the school and would like a sibling photograph, please complete the form already given out to students.

Please return the completed form to the school office by 9.00am on Thursday 22 September 2016 or email Ms Webb at fwebb@vynersschool.org.uk listing student names and tutor groups.

Parent Portal

Over the summer the Parent Portal was upgraded to provide a new interface which is now more suitable for use on all mobile devices, as well as PCs.

There are no changes to the login details, and the information displayed is the same, with the addition of medical details we hold for the students.

Any Year 7 parent who has a login for older siblings, will be able to see details for their Year 7 student too.

Parents who are new to the school will receive their login details by email before the end of September.

All queries please email

portal@vyners.hillingdon.sch.uk

ASTHMA/ANAPHYLAXIS STUDENTS

If your child has Asthma or is Anaphylactic, can you please make sure that they carry their own inhaler, epipen and/or antihistamine tablets with them at ALL times. Can you also send in a spare inhaler, epipen and/or antihistamine medicine to **STUDENT SERVICES**.

If your child is asthmatic and you would like to send in a spacer for your child, this will also be kept in Student Services for them to use when needed.