



Parent Bulletin

2nd May 2025

I have a tendency to lead whole school assemblies early on in each term and this week I decided to talk to the students about values. The reason for this is that I have taken the time to reflect on the fact that we, as a school, have for some time adhered to the values of community, aspiration, respect and endeavour (CARE), which overlap to some degree with the Vanguard Learning Trust values of aspiration, community and equity. Schools are also mandated to teach the fundamental British Values ([click here](#)), which were first introduced to schools in 2014. These values were developed and promoted to ensure young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain. The main value that I discussed in more detail was individual liberty, which refers to the freedom of each person to live as they choose as long as their actions do not infringe upon the rights and liberties of others, whether that is in the school playground or in the wider community. It is also important, I believe, to remember just how hard won our individual liberties are and it is only proper that we recognise this during important events such as the VE Day 80th anniversary events that will be taking place next week.

My final points were simply to ask the students what they value and what is important to them. Whether this may be the school's or any other values and to remind them that good values are like a magnet as they attract good people.

The summer external examination season started this week with language oral exams, practical examinations in the Arts as well as the BTEC digital IT exam for students in Year 13. GCSE written papers begin next week with the GCSE Drama and Psychology on Thursday morning and the main A level papers starting on Monday 12th May. To facilitate these examinations, we will again be changing the pattern of the school day from the 2-2-1 pattern to the 2-1-2 pattern, meaning that break 2 will be at 12.20pm and there will be two lessons after the lunch session. This allows for a relatively undisturbed afternoon examination session. I would like to wish all students participating in external examinations the very best of luck. It is worth remembering that the exam period is a relatively short lived experience that requires some sacrifice for longer term gain. I would also like to thank staff and parents for continuing to support the students / young people through the challenge of the exam season, especially given the fact that children in England sit many more hours than children in other OECD countries. (The exception to this is Singapore where our hours are similar).

Linked to our values, I would again like to remind parents and family members that we work to maintain good community relationships with our neighbours on Warren Road and surrounding roads. Unfortunately, this week the parking situation has been particularly bad with the school receiving several complaints about parents parking across driveways. What has made matters worse is that some parents have been unresponsive and at times, rude when asked to move so that residents can exit their properties. This is not acceptable and runs counter to our values. I would also remind parents that they should not attempt to tailgate staff cars into the car park area of the school premises in the mornings whether or not their child is carrying larger items. The support of parents in these matters is very much appreciated.

Finally this week, I would like to wish all families a wonderful bank holiday weekend and I hope that all families do have the opportunity to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day next week and particularly on Thursday.

Gary Mullings
Headteacher

Design and Technology Department - Food Competition

Four of our students were chosen to represent Vyners School in a food product development competition. Having worked as part of a team to develop an original pesto recipe, 'Mediterranean Magic', the students were required to pitch their product to a panel of four judges in front of eight competing schools. They presented their highly engaging and professional powerpoint to the executives on the Belazu company panel. The judges were extremely impressed with the product and for creating a very high quality label using the Belazu logo. Special mention was made of their original idea of using an ingredient, usually a by-product, for sustainability reasons.

Congratulations to Eashan, Peter, Arianna and George for their exemplary display of the Vyners School core values and for their enthusiasm and engagement. Special thank you to the other 20 year 7 and 8 students who contributed towards the development of the pesto 'Mediterranean Magic'

Mrs Davies, Food Technology Teacher



Year 12 Trip to Jesus College, Cambridge

Through the Future Leaders Programme, I had the opportunity to visit Cambridge University and gain a real insight into life as a student studying there. The day began with an introduction to Cambridge's values and the extensive support and opportunities available to students. We explored Jesus College and participated in a critical thinking workshop, where we worked through real interview-style questions designed to challenge how we approach problems. A highlight of the day was the personal statement workshop, where we received expert advice on strengthening applications, particularly in light of the new admissions process for 2026 entry. It was an incredibly valuable and motivating experience.

Yara, Year 12 Student

Sports Update

Borough Football Success

I would like to give a huge congratulations to all of our boys who represented the school in our football teams this year. This year, for the first time in our recent history we have managed to win the borough league titles for Y7, 8, 9 and 10. Out of all the fixtures played in the league, across every year group, we only had 1 loss and won every other fixture. Well done to all involved and let's hope we can keep up the success for next year!

Mr Neville, PE Teacher

Disneyland Paris Netball Tour

Over the Easter break, a group of our netball students had the exciting opportunity to travel to Disneyland Paris for a memorable four-day trip combining competitive netball and Disneyland. During the two-day International Netball Festival our teams represented the school with great spirit, teamwork, and determination. A special congratulations goes to our 9A team who achieved a fantastic 3rd place finish in the top-tier competition, an impressive result against both schools and club teams. When not on the court, students enjoyed two magical days exploring the Disneyland Parks, soaking up the atmosphere and enjoying the rides and entertainment. It was a fantastic experience for all involved, filled with both sporting success and unforgettable memories.



Miss Powick, PE Teacher

Mini Marathon

I hope you all had an opportunity to watch some of the marathon on Sunday. Some of you may have been inspired to sign up for next year!

On Saturday was the mini marathon where 3 of our students ran 2.6km to represent Hillingdon (Dylan Lewis, Elsie Fitzgerald and Hattie Kestell).

Dylan Lewis came 3rd (Bronze Medal - 7m 40s) in the U15 Boys race. This race consisted of all the best runners in the UK and boys Dylan has never beaten before. Dylan performed an amazing sprint finish to secure the Bronze. Dylan also received a silver as part of the team competition with the London Region.



Elsie Fitzgerald and Hattie Kestell also ran in the U13s - Elsie 47th (9.43), Hattie 205th (13.07).

Absolutely fantastic effort from all involved and Vyners are very proud!

Miss Hawes, PE Teacher

Update on new cashless system

I am pleased to report that over 90% of parents have now successfully set up their account on ParentPay. This remains the only way that the school will accept payments for trips and canteen purchases. If you have not yet activated your account but are keen to do so, please email me for your registration letter (kwilliams@vynersschool.org.uk).

Parents are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure their son / daughter has funds available for food purchases. Unfortunately, there is not currently an auto top up facility in ParentPay - this is in development. Parents can set up an auto alert, reminding them of when a top up is required.

Whilst there is an emergency lunch ticket facility in school, the school is unable to offer repeated lunch credit. Students more than £5 in debt will not be offered any more credit.

Parents of Year 11 students are asked to ensure their child's account is in credit before leaving. We will not be able to release prom tickets to students who owe the school money.

Thank you for your continued support

Miss Williams, Business Manager

Friends of Vyners

Please click [\[here\]](#) for further information on Friends of Vyners, including the Quiz Night on 9th May and Race Night on 27th June.

Summer Term Key Dates

Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday
Friday 9th May	Friends of Vyners Quiz Night
Thursday 15th May	Year 8 Parents Evening (online), 4.30pm to 7.00pm
26th - 30th May	Half Term
Thursday 5th June	Year 7 Parents Evening (online), 4.30pm to 7.00pm
Friday 27th June	Staff Development Day (students not in school)
Friday 27th June	Race Night at Uxbridge Golf Club
Friday 18th July	Terms ends (12.20pm finish)

Please click [\[here\]](#) for the link to the co-curricular activities page on our website for the summer term timetable.