Vyners School

Striving for Excellence

Year 8 Update 11/09/2026

Dear Parents,

It has been a hectic start to the year for me, so many new names and faces to learn!

It has also been a very pleasing start to the year, as I have visited students in their lessons I have witnessed students eager to learn and enjoying their learning.

I am, however, well aware that there will be students for whom the return to school brought a sense of dread (I used to be one of those!)

I, and the year team are here to help. If there is anything that we can do to help, please let us know. In the first instance this should be done by emailing your child's tutor.

If you have any worries or concerns do not hesitate to call or email for a chat.

Together we can sort it out.

Kind regards

Damian Brooks

Headteacher Updates

Late Detentions
We are pleased to be able to report that we have experienced a significant reduction in the number of students who are late for school in the mornings during this week. This has occurred alongside the implementation of the school's updated punctuality procedures. Whilst we very much appreciate that some parents are forewarning us that their child will be late at specific times, please note that students will still be issued with a late detention if the lateness is related to transport issues. There are some exemptions to late detentions, for example, where a child attends a medical appointment that could not be scheduled outside of school hours. However, in most other instances, students will be required to serve a same day 20 minute detention if they are late at the start of the school day. We would again like to thank you to all parents and carers for their ongoing support with this matter.

Junior School Open Evening
Parents / carers were sent a letter yesterday regarding early closure for the school on Wednesday 23rd September (at 12.20pm) due to Open Evening and the late start on Thursday 24th September (students should arrive between 10.30am and 10.45am). Please [click here] for the letter.

Gary Mullings
Headteacher

Safeguarding Snapshot

This week's safeguarding snapshot has information on supporting students starting back to school. Please [click here] for further information.

Co-Curricular Clubs

Please [click here] for the co-curricular club timetable for the Autumn Term.

LAMDA
Please [click here] for information for students to sign up for drama classes with LAMDA. If you have any questions, please email theatre@longlanetc.com

Canteen Reminders

Can I remind parents that the school canteen works in the following way:

All students have an automatic daily limit of £6.50. This includes their free school meal (FSM) allowance. Please speak to your son / daughter to make them aware of this allowance. They should not be regularly buying food for their friends as this may mean they themselves run out of money. We have the ability in school to adjust this daily allowance individually per child. Please email kwilliams@vynersschool.org.uk if you would like it adjusting either up or down.

Students in year 7 - 11 will not be able to use a normal contactless card to buy food. Using such a card removes any visibility you have, as parents, about what they have been purchasing. You cannot see a purchase unless it is made via ParentPay.

The FSM allowance is £3.02 per day. This is enough to enable a child to buy a full hot meal and drink at lunchtime. It will not be enough to cover a breaktime snack, and you may wish to send them in with something. The hot meal is the best value item - please make sure your child is aware this is a good choice for them to make.

If your child is FSM eligible, their allowance is spent first. Any purchases over £3.02 will need to be funded by you. Please top up the account in the normal way if you would like your child to have extra purchasing power. Any unspent FSM allowance does not roll forward and disappears from the system at the end of the day

It is the responsibility of parents to make sure there is sufficient funds on parentpay to enable a child to buy food. There is an emergency system of 'pink slips' in place for those occasions where there has been a 'glitch'. Students should not regularly be asking for these slips though and the school will be contacting parents if a student regularly comes to school with no packed lunch or money on their account.

Any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me kwilliams@vynersschool.org.uk

Miss Williams
Business Manager

Autumn Term Key Dates

Autumn Term 2026	
Monday 14th September	Year 7 Co-curricular Fayre
Wednesday 16th September	Year 7 Parent Information / Cheese & Wine Evening
Thursday 17th September	Awards Evening
Wednesday 23rd September	Junior School Open Evening
Monday 28th September	Year 11 Parent Information Evening
Tuesday 29th September	Year 9 Parent Information Evening
Wednesday 30th September	Year 12 Parent Information Evening
Friday 2nd October	FOV Quiz Night
Tuesday 6th October	Year 10 Parent Information Evening
Wednesday 7th October	Year 13 Parent Information Evening
Tuesday 13th October	Year 8 Parent Information Evening
Tuesday 20th October	Sixth Form Open Evening (applications open)
Friday 23rd October	Year 8 and Year 13 reports issued
Monday 26th to Friday 30th October – Half Term	
Friday 6th November	Year 11 reports issued
Friday 13th November	Year 10 reports issued
Wednesday 18th November	Governance Day
Thursday 19th November	Staff Conference (school closed to students)
Friday 20th November	Staff Conference (school closed to students)
Monday 23rd November	Occasional Day (school closed)
Friday 27th November	Year 12 reports issued
Friday 27th November	FOV Quiz Night
Tuesday 1st December	Year 11 & 13 Trial exams start
Thursday 3rd December	Senior Citizens' Christmas Party
Wednesday 9th December	VLT Christmas Concert
Friday 11th December	Year 9 reports issued
Tuesday 15th December	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 16th December	Vyners Christmas Concert
Friday 18th December	Year 7 reports issued
Friday 18th December	**End of Autumn Term (12.20pm finish)**