

Parent Bulletin

16th October 2026

With just one week remaining before the half term break I would like to thank all parents and carers for supporting the wide range of activities that have taken place during the first half term. I was particularly pleased to note the good numbers that attended the parent information evenings for each year group, although we are always keen to see maximum attendance at these engagement events. As always, we've been incredibly busy. We've had a number of significant activities, even in this past fortnight including the Jack Petchey 'Speak Out' workshops for students in Year 10, the anti-bullying and anti discrimination workshops for students in Years 7 and 9 respectively as well as the visit to the Model United Nations Conference at ACS Hillingdon that involved some of our students in Year 13. I would like to particularly thank the ACS schools for their continued outreach work with the VLT schools that gives access to a number of excellent educational and enrichment activities at no cost to the students or the school.

Vyners Staff Conference

At this time in the year, I also like to provide a timely reminder that the school will be closed to students on Thursday 19th November through to Monday 23rd November 2026 inclusive as these are the dates for this year's staff conference. Parents and carers may be interested to know that amongst our keynote speakers and workshop leaders we will be working with the prominent educational consultant and author, Alex Quigley as well as Laura Dennis from the Centre for Autism and ADHD Support (CAAS). Laura will be leading a session with staff focusing on supporting neurodiversity in the classroom, whilst Alex will be supporting our development of strategies that promote strong literacy and language acquisition through evidence based teaching practices. The staff conference continues to be a very important part of the school's staff development programme and whilst we acknowledge that the three days can prove disruptive for some families we very much hope that parents and carers understand the importance of the staff at the school engaging in high quality professional development on a regular basis.

Community Spirit

Finally this week, I would like to commend two Year 11 students, Alfie Field and Shivanth Kanesarhuban for coming to the aid of a local resident last Friday, when he fell ill on Warren Road. They helped him and stayed with him until his family were able to collect him. Both boys are a credit to the school and will receive Headteachers Commendations for this demonstration of Vyners' values being upheld in the community.

Wishing all families a wonderful weekend.

Gary Mullings
Headteacher

Empowering Our Students: Stand Up! Workshops

Last week, we were delighted to welcome facilitators from Stand Up! Education Against Discrimination - a collaborative partnership between Maccabi GB and the Community Security Trust - to deliver engaging, high-impact workshops for Year 7 and Year 9.

On Thursday 8th October, Year 7 students took part in sixty-minute sessions that examined anti-bullying, prejudice, and the ways in which stereotypes are formed. The visiting facilitators commended the students on their outstanding behaviour, mature attitudes, and thoughtful contributions during discussions surrounding respect and inclusion.

On Friday 9th October, Year 9 participated in an intensive two-hour anti-discrimination workshop. Maintaining focus for such an extended period requires real concentration, and our Year 9 students rose to the occasion brilliantly by staying fully engaged throughout the morning.

The extended Year 9 session provided students with the opportunity to explore complex societal themes in detail. Students began by learning about the Equality Act and the various protected characteristics that safeguard individuals from discrimination, such as race, religion, sex, and disability. They then evaluated common anti-Muslim hostility and antisemitic stereotypes, analysing how media coverage and online algorithms shape public perceptions. The workshop also examined the realities of religiously motivated hate crime and looked at how global events can lead to sudden spikes in incidents against Jewish and Muslim communities. Finally, students explored inspiring examples of interfaith solidarity and learned practical strategies for safely reporting hate crimes on public transport, on social media, or through support organisations like CST and Tell MAMA.

Through these sessions, our students gained essential critical thinking skills, a deeper empathy for others, and practical guidance on how to navigate complex topics respectfully. We extend a huge thank you to the team at Stand Up! for delivering such vital sessions, and we commend all participating students for representing our school so brilliantly.



Mr Millard-Healy, Deputy Headteacher

Model United Nations Conference

Ten students from the Vyners Model United Nations Club were invited to ACS Hillingdon to take part in their Model United Nations Conference on Monday 5th October 2026. The students had been allocated a country in the United Nations and given the preparatory task of learning all about its politics, economy and culture. They also had to prepare to take part in two discussions; one on 'Addressing the Global Challenges of Refugees and Immigration' and the other on 'Regulating Lethal Autonomous Weapons and Artificial Intelligence in Warfare'.

It was clear that ACS had spent a lot of time and effort on the organisation for the day, including transforming their hall into the United Nations Chamber with delegate packs, assigned seating and a lot of flags. There were 180 students in attendance representing every United Nations country and some special interest groups on the issues up for discussion. Students took part in lobbying, debating, discussing amendments, passing notes during debates and voting and ratifying resolutions. A lot of valuable lessons have been learned which can be implemented when the Trust holds its first Model UN activities during next half-term's environmental sustainability week.



Mr Beale, Subject Leader History and Politics

BBC Radio 5 Live Politics Students

On Wednesday 14th October two of our Sixth Form students appeared on BBC Radio 5 Live as part of the Level Up segment on Matt Chorley's show. It has been running for a few weeks and celebrates the fact that Politics is one of the fastest growing A Levels in the country. Sara Sharma and George Langley, both in Year 13 dialled in through Zoom to the show and faced questions from Matt and Mr Beale on political parties, the role of the party members, the leader and their own political ambitions. They both did fantastically well and received glowing praise from the hosts as well as members of the public texting in.



"I found that being on BBC Radio 5 Live on the Matt Chorley Show was a really positive and enjoyable experience. I found it very exciting to be part of a live radio discussion and have the opportunity to share my personal views on topics with a wider audience. I also thought it was also a valuable learning experience, helping me develop my confidence in speaking and expressing my opinions. Overall, I really enjoyed the experience and would love to take part in similar opportunities in the future."

- **Sara Sharma**

"My experience with Matt Chorley's show was fantastic. Prior to joining the live radio I felt welcomed by the BBC radio 5 team and they made sure I was comfortable. In addition to this they helped solve the issues I was having with my microphone. Once on the radio, Matt did a marvellous job of keeping me engaged and asked thought provoking questions. I thoroughly enjoyed my time on the show and if asked to go on again, I'd say yes in a heartbeat."

- **George Langley**



You can listen again using the via this link to BBC Sounds [[click here](#)]. (BBC ID required)

Mr Beale will be the politics teacher in residence on the Level Up segment on the Matt Chorley Show for the next 10 weeks. You can listen at 3:30pm every Wednesday.

Price increases in the canteen

It has unfortunately been necessary to increase the canteen prices from the start of next half term. The average price increase is 2.7%. This has not been applied on all products though, and I am pleased to report there will be no increase on healthier options such as fresh fruit and salad.

Vanguard Learning Trust has worked hard with Cucina, our outsourced caterers, to keep this increase as low as possible. Food inflation is currently running at 3.7% though, with predictions that it could go as high as 9% by the end of the year. Our valued canteen staff have also been awarded an increase of 4.1% to the national minimum wage. This wage increase is outside the control of both the school and Cucina.

The school cannot afford to run the canteen at a loss, hence why it has unfortunately been necessary to pass some of these increases to parents, through a tariff increase.

The Free School Meal allowance will continue to be £3.02 as will the price of the 'main meal deal'. The daily hot meal is home made, nutritious and represents the best value item to buy in the canteen. Families in receipt of the FSM allowance are asked to speak to their son or daughter about how to make best use of their allowance.

Feedback continues to be welcome on the food offer - either through emailing me directly, or through encouraging your child to stand for Student Parliament. Our student representatives are asked for feedback on a termly basis.

Miss Williams, Business Manager

Student Details on Arbor

Please could all parents/carers check their children's Arbor profiles and update any out of date contact or address details to ensure we are able to reach a responsible adult in case of an emergency. You can do so by either submitting the change through your Arbor portal or by emailing Mrs Sombrero via the school office: office@vynersschool.org.uk

Sports Update

Year 7 Girls Football League

On Wednesday 7th October Year 7 girls took part in their first football fixture against Queensmead school. The girls were able to secure an 11- 1 win with Olivia Bolasie Yala scoring 5 goals and Kareena Ghai scoring 6.

U16 Girls Middlesex Cup

In the first round of the Middlesex Cup on Thursday 8th October, Vyners faced Queens Park Community school, in Brent. This was one of our more challenging games on tough terrain. After a 2-2 draw with 10 minutes left to play, giving the girls a reminder that we would have to stay longer with the current score, they were able to score a third, leading to a 3-2 victory and entry into the second round. Goal scorers were Amber Woolfrey (2) and Bow Mower (1).

Year 7A Girls Netball

On Monday 12th October Year 7's took part in their first netball match at Vyners, away to Northwood College. After a tough first half with an unheard of scoreline of 0-0, we were able to rise to victory with a 2-0 win. Goal scorer Esha Dhaliwal (2).

U16 Girls FA Schools Cup

The U16 Girls headed to Watford on Tuesday 13th October for their third round of the national cup, against renowned football school Queens. In the first half we had secured a 3 - 0 lead with goals from Bow Mower, Amber Woolfrey and Sophie Hawkins, assisted by Lily Havard (2) and Amber Woolfrey. After a switch of sides and facing the sun Vyners showed they were not done yet with two more goals, from Libby Scarisbrick and Sophie Hawkins both assisted by Elsie Fitzgerald.

Ms John, PE Department

Year 7 Boys Rugby

The year 7 boys had their first ever rugby game this week against Rosedale. They performed really well and ran out winners 20 - 10. It was fantastic to see 15 players take the field and represent the school to a good standard.

Mr Hall, PE Department

Movember - M4M Challenge

Miles for Matt, Miles for Men is this year's movember challenge. Mr Hall will be running 5km every hour for 24 hours, 120km in total. Staff and students will be able to join Mr Hall running throughout the 24 hours and will be informed how they can take part. Movember is the leading charity changing the face of men's health. As a school community we lost a dear colleague and teacher this year in Mr Wilcox and as a community we are raising money to support ALL men's health. Donations, contributions, your support and growing a hairy upper lip would go a long way.

Date - Start: 3pm on Thursday 26th November and Finish: 3pm on Friday 27th November

Please [click here](#) for the donation link.

Lost Property

We have a significant accumulation of lost property already this term and our storage bins are now overflowing! We kindly ask that you encourage your child to visit the lost property area to claim any missing items, including glasses that your child might have left in classrooms, coats, water bottles and PE kits.

Please ensure all personal belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name, as this allows us to return items to their rightful owners immediately.

Staff Vacancies

Please [click here](#) for the current staff vacancies across the VLT sites.

Attendance Figures

Please find below attendance figures for w/c 5th October 2026

Year Group	Present Marks (%)
Year 7	95.99%
Year 8	94.65%
Year 9	97.93%
Year 10	93.93%
Year 11	93%
Year 12	96.1%
Year 13	93.51%

Please find below the top 3 tutorials for attendance for w/c 5th October 2026

Tutorial	Present Mark (%)
9C, 12Y	100%
9G, 9W	99.68%
12R	99.5%

Autumn Term Key Dates

Autumn Term 2026	
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
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)