



Dear Families,

Happy New Year from us all at The Vineyard!

I have really been struck by the generosity of our community with their time since coming back to school in January. We would have seriously struggled without your help. Year 5 have been taking part in mini public speaking workshops with a couple of our parents as part of Parliament Week. They've had to write manifestos and then present them to each other. On Thursday Sarah Olney MP spoke to our Year 5&6 children about being a MP. She also faced their challenging questions.

Since November, we have conducted many school tours for parents of children due to start school in September 2022. There have been many very complimentary comments about the calm atmosphere in the school, how polite the children are and how engaged they are in their learning be it in PE, computing, geography, music, french to name a few. It was a pleasure to walk past the halls on Wednesday to see one of our reception classes taking part in a PE lesson and in the second hall a year 3 class were all learning the cello and viola.

As part of our school development we are taking a close look at our curriculum offer. As a teaching staff we have taken time to think about the context of our school and our school values. We want our curriculum to be built around both of these things so the children build knowledge and develop skills as they journey through the school. The next phase of this piece of work will be to look at each curricular area so we feel happy that what we are teaching the children is the knowledge and skills they need to learn so they leave The Vineyard as scientists, geographers, historians, artists etc. For children to gain knowledge it is vital that links are made between the different things they learn. We will be able to share our work with you later in the year and will be asking for a parent working party to help us with some of this work - more information to follow in time.

I am hoping to be able to write to you all in the next few weeks to launch our orchestra!

Wishing you a wonderful weekend. I am swimming 30 metres in unheated outdoor pool for Crisis on Saturday morning! Once that is done I will look forward to the rest of the weekend!

See you on Monday, Frances Bracegirdle

## Upcoming Events

Wed 19 Jan	Parent Teacher Consultations, 1.30pm-5pm
Thu 20 Jan	Pupil Census (Office Busy AM)
Thu 20 Jan	Parent Teacher Consultations, 4pm-7pm
Fri 4 Feb	Wear Something That Makes You Happy Day
Tue 8 Feb	Safer Internet Day
<b>Mon 14 Feb - Fri 18 Feb</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Thu 3 Mar	World Book Day
Fri 18 Mar	Red Nose Day
<b>Fri 1 Apr</b>	<b>Last Day of Term - Half Day</b>
<b>Mon 4 Apr - Fri 15 Apr</b>	<b>EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>
<b>Mon 18 Apr</b>	<b>Bank Holiday - School Closed</b>

## Library Family Time is back starting next Thursday 20th.

We're pleased to announce the return of 'family time' in the library on Thursdays from 3pm to 5.15pm. Come and enjoy some reading time with your children, browse and borrow books together or wait for a sibling to finish a club. Pre-school children welcome.

When you arrive at school you will need to sign in at the main office. Someone will then let you in.

We are really looking forward to seeing lots of families taking time to read stories and spend special time together.

[\*\*\*Koosa Kids Half Term Holiday Club\*\*\*](#)

## Useful links

Please see below some links to our website that parents may find useful:

[Calendar](#) [Absence and Attendance](#) [Koosa](#)

[Kids](#) [Extra-Curricular Clubs](#)

[Library](#) [Report and Absence](#) [FAQs](#)

[Website](#) [PTA](#)

Get the latest updates and photos by following the school on Twitter  
[@Vineyard\\_School](#)



## Reception

The Reception children have been so excited to be back at school after the Christmas break and it has been lovely to see their smiley faces. They have been busily exploring our new role play areas and spending time experimenting in our Stem Den with playdough. We spent our first week back thinking about our New Year's Resolutions for 2022. We discussed how different people celebrate a new year, what new year's resolutions are and listened to a story called 'Squirrel's New Year's resolution' before coming up with our own. The EYFS teachers have been so impressed with the children's ambitious writing. The children have used Fred fingers to have a go at writing their own sentences. Here are some examples of our fantastic writing.

## Year 1

We've had a great start to the Spring term in Year 1. In English the children have loved reading about the lonely alien Beegu, and have written a letter to her inviting Beegu to the Vineyard school where she can make lots of lovely friends. In History, we have been discussing Captain Scott, and have re-enacted his journey to the South Pole! In Art, the children have loved learning about Yayoi Kusama, and have taken inspiration from the patterns and colours in her work to make their own pieces.

## Year 2

This week in year 2 we have been learning our 2 and 5 times tables. The children have loved learning their multiplication facts and have wowed all the teachers! We also made a printing tile in the style of Orla Kiely. Next week we will be printing our designs into a repeated pattern. In geography we have been learning about the UK and now know our compass points. The children have returned from the holidays ready to learn and they have made a great start to the Spring term!

## Year 3

It has been a busy and exciting first 2 weeks back in Year 3! The children have come back from the holidays refreshed and excited to learn. In English, we have been learning all about the amazing Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah who navigated around Ghana on his bike with only 1 leg! We have some budding reporters who have been writing questions and interviewing Emmanuel on the hot seat ready to write their very own newspaper article. We have started our new Science topic - Rocks & Soil - and the children have been busy identifying and classifying different types of rock by their features. This week, Year 3 also began learning how to play the viola and the cello-it has been wonderful to hear all the amazing musical talent we have across the year group! In History, we have started learning about The Tudors and the children have been finding out the differences between modern society and Tudor society, and who the most influential monarch was!

## Year 4

Over the last two weeks, Year 4 have based their English around an abridged book of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. They were able to make the past come vividly to life with their wonderful performances. Each child had to create a persuasive speech, convincing King Arthur (played by their class teacher) of why they were the most worthy Knight of the land and for this, they would acquire a seat at King Arthur's round table. The children enjoyed hot-seating as the characters and wrote very convincing and passionate arguments to why they were deserving, justifying their reasons using examples from the text. We are so proud of all their efforts!

## Year 5

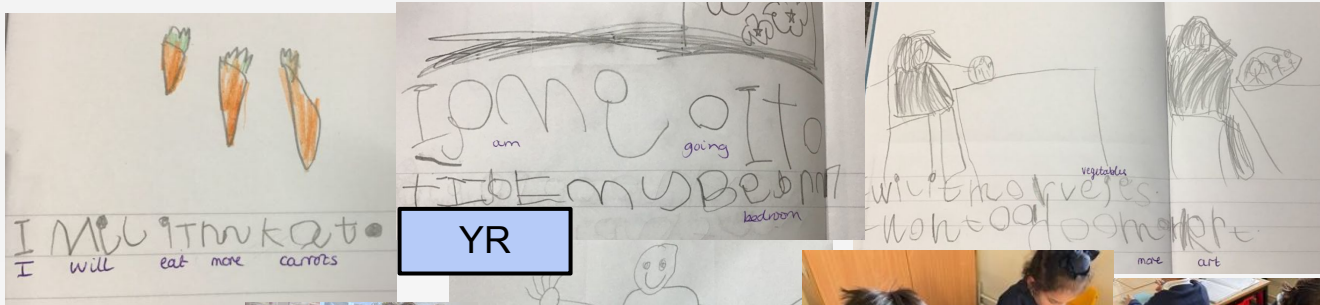
This week Year 5 have had the opportunity to experience parliament week, where they have created their own political parties and learnt about democracy and the formation of the UK government. They have written persuasive speeches, outlining their manifestos and were very lucky to be able to have a Q&A session with our local MP - Sarah Olney. In the afternoons year 5 have tried out a variety of art topics, such as land art and pixel art.

## Year 6

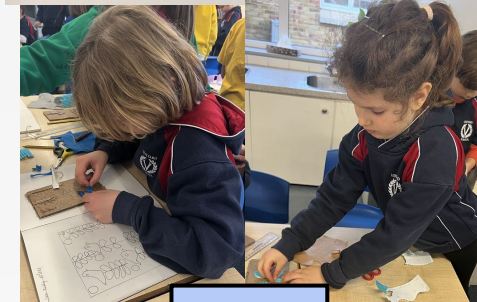
Year 6 have had a busy week this week. On Tuesday we were lucky enough to have STEM day run by the Richmond Parish Land Charity, where we built and trialled rockets. We have also been creating media in computing and using iPads to learn different filming techniques like panning, and framing. In English we are currently learning about Harriett Tubman and her inspirational life story.



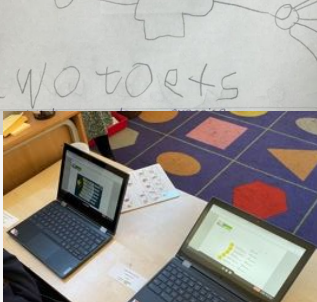
# Photos



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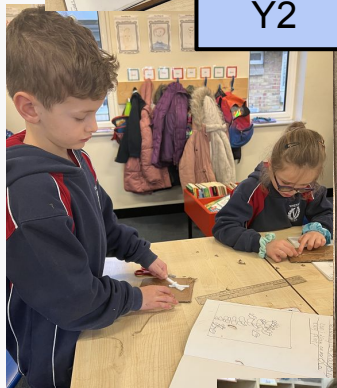
Y2



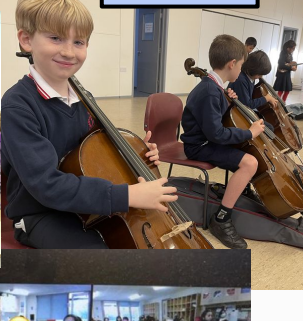
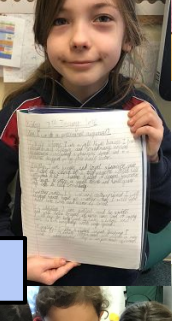
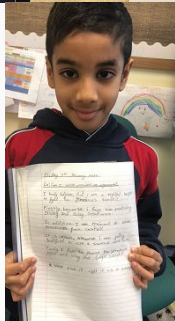
Y1



Y3



Y4



Y5



Y6

