



The Vineyard School

The Vineyard School
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Dear Families,

Unbelievably we are at half term and the half way point of the academic year! Today the children were asked to 'dress to express' to mark the end of 'Children's Mental Health Week'. As part of this week the 'Smile for Five' challenge has been relaunched.

Challenge: Smile For Five passers-by today and everyday

Why? To connect, relate and include, to release those endorphins!

The science: The physical act of smiling sends messages to our brain to release endorphins. The release of these endorphins rush round our body making us feel lighter, happier and much much more!

Our 'Smile for Five' ambassadors have been giving stickers to children who have made an exemplary effort in connecting and including others through their smile. This initiative has provided a real focus over the week and I have seen many smiling children - which has been lovely!

I am delighted to announce that we have recruited two Assistant Headteachers to replace Mr Rosewell when he retires at the end of this year. Miss McArdle will take on the responsibility of assessment and safeguarding. Mrs Reilly will take on the responsibility of curriculum and teaching & learning. Although we will be sad to say goodbye to Mr Rosewell this is an exciting time for the school and I am confident that we have a very strong team to drive The Vineyard forwards.

Wishing you all a lovely half term, take care, Frances Bracegirdle

*Please remember that **no nuts are allowed on site at any time**, as we have several children with severe allergies. All snacks for school and clubs should also be healthy - no crisps or sweets.*

Spark! Poetry Competition

While we wait for our delivery of the Spark School Book Award shortlisted books, the team have launched a poetry competition. Perfect for keeping children busy and creative over half term. The aim is for pupils to write a poem based on the cover or title of one of the shortlisted books.

Children can submit entries individually to sparkbookawards@gmail.com. Please identify pupils' names, school and age category. Use the subject heading: 'Poetry competition'. The deadline for entries is 28th February. There are prizes for the winning entries as chosen by the Spark! judging team with the chance for children to record their successful poems for our website and for the overall winner to perform at our winners' ceremony in June.

More details can be found here: [Poetry competition details](#). Good luck everyone!

Upcoming Events

**Mon 14 Feb -
Fri 18 Feb**

HALF TERM

Thu 3 Mar

World Book Day

Thu 3 Mar

Year 3 National Maritime Museum Trip

Fri 4 Mar

World Book Day Non-uniform Day

Fri 18 Mar

Red Nose Day Non-uniform Day

Fri 18 Mar

Year 2 Tower of London Trip

Fri 1 Apr

Last Day of Term - Half Day

**Mon 4 Apr -
Fri 15 Apr**

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Mon 18 Apr

Bank Holiday - School Closed

Tue 19 Apr

First Day of Summer Term



Get the latest updates and photos by following the school on Twitter
[@Vineyard_School](https://twitter.com/Vineyard_School)

Useful links

[Calendar](#) [Absence and Attendance](#) [Koosa Kids](#) [Extra-Curricular Clubs](#) [Library](#) [Report and Absence](#) [FAQs](#) [Website](#) [PTA](#)

Class News

Reception

This week is Children's Mental Health week. Reception children have been learning about what we need to be healthy. They understand that being happy is just as important as keeping our bodies healthy; therefore we have been doing some mindfulness activities and things that make us happy. Last week Reception celebrated Chinese New Year; we were very lucky to have a few visitors come to tell us how they celebrate it in their families. We made Chinese dragons, re-enacted the Zodiac story, made lanterns, tigers and also learned how to dance like a lion!

Year 1

It has been a great end to the half term in Year 1. In English, the children have enjoyed reading the book 'The Emperor's Egg', where they have learned even more about Antarctica and the animals that live there. In art, pupils have continued to look at the work of Yayoi Kusama and had a great time making clay pumpkins, taking inspiration from her sculptures. This week in science, Year 1 have been learning about evergreen and deciduous trees, where they had the opportunity to explore the various trees we have around school and describe how they will change over the seasons.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a busy 2 weeks! Last week in PSHE we had such a great time working as a team and making a dreams and goals nest with twigs and leaves we collected! We worked well as a team and used all of our Vineyard Values to be successful in working together. In art we have been looking at a fantastic artist called Orla Kiely who uses printing in her art. We made our own prints based on Orla Kiely designs. This week we have been conducting our mock KS1 SATs papers, including: 2 maths papers, 2 reading comprehension papers and a SPAG paper! The children worked so incredibly hard and showed all of the Vineyard Values over the course of the week. Alongside this, we have been finishing our Humanism, Geography and Science topics for this term as we will be starting our new topics next half term - including the great fire of London! Finally, we have been working hard in both maths and English. In maths, we have been continuing to challenge ourselves by using pictograms, tally charts and bar graphs. We will continue this topic for a short time after half term. In English, we have been working hard writing our very own leaflets on how to look after a cat! All of the children have been working so hard! Keep up the good work! We wish you all a happy, healthy and restful half term break. We look forward to seeing you all after the half term.

Year 3

Year 3 was turned into a bakery on Tuesday thanks to Sara Ward of Hen Corner who came into school to teach the children to make bread. This was a fantastic end to our D&T topic "Making healthy sandwiches" and also supported our PSHE topic "Healthy Me". The children weighed, mixed, kneaded and proved their dough before shaping it for baking. Thanks to Sara for a memorable day, to our parent helpers and to the PTA who funded this event. In maths, the children are learning about money and beginning to add and subtract in pounds and pence. Soil samples were investigated in Science to see what happens when water is added to different types of soil. In computing, Year 3 created and compared different ways of presenting information.

Year 4

This week Year 4 worked hard on their non-chronological reports. They focused on forming paragraphs and making sure they included adverbial phrases, conjunctions and ambitious adjectives to enhance their writing. As part of Children's Mental Health Week the Year 4 Smile For Five Ambassadors enjoyed handing out stickers to all those children that made the effort to connect and welcome others with their smile.

Year 5 & 6

It has been a week of finishing off our topics across the curriculum as well as thinking about our mental health and what we can do to make us feel calm, happy and positive. In English, we have been concluding our learning about The Tempest by predicting where Prospero's island is and making posters to advertise the play. Maths has been looking at how to streamline shapes and focussing on our timetables. In art we have been finishing off our clay plates, using acrylic paint to decorate our intricate designs and also finishing our short films to promote the school in Computing. We have been super Scientists by planning and carrying out our own experiments using our scientific skills.

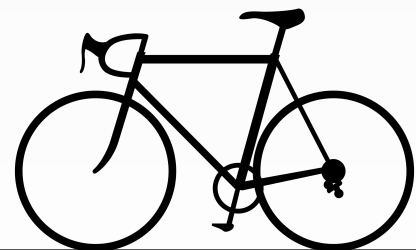
Photos



A Y6 double header away at Meadlands School



Construction will start after half term on the lower playground, where two new Football and Basketball targets will be added. Thank you to the PTA and all of you for fundraising - keep it up and we will see what other new things appear in school!



Going for Great
The challenge was to record and take part in a healthy activity - Alex Y3 took on the challenge of a 100km cycle!



BATTLE CAMP
EARN YOUR ARMOUR
LEARN NEW SKILLS
PASS THE LEVELS
EARN YOUR ARMOUR

YEARS GROUPS: 1-7
DATES: 14TH-18TH FEBRUARY
TIME: 10.00-15.00
VENUE: WALDEGRAVE SCHOOL
COST: £39 FOR 1 DAY
£139 FOR 5 DAYS

TO BOOK VISIT THE WEBSITE
WWW.KNIGHTSBASKETBALL.CO.UK