



Dear families,

It was a real joy watching the children having so much fun at the two discos last week. Honestly, it has been such a long time since we have been able to get the children together to just have fun at school. Their happy faces said it all! I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all the parents who made this event possible and to the staff who stayed to help. As always these events can't go ahead without a team effort.

Last Friday, one of our reception parents spent the day in school with her professional camera taking photographs which we will put on the website in due course. Some will also be posted on twitter and instagram over the next few weeks. Thank you very much to the parent for a great set of photos.

We are busy reviewing and developing our curriculum. As I've mentioned before, it is important that we look at the context of our school and our values in order to build a curriculum that is suited to the children at The Vineyard. We have started with geography. It is important to identify key threads that run through from EYFS to Year 6. In this curriculum one of the threads is the local area. This will start with the children thinking and learning about where they are (The Vineyard School, Richmond). This will move on in future years to comparing Richmond with London and then comparing Richmond to a small non-European location. When the children learn about rivers they will study The Thames and in Year 6 they will investigate climate change and the effects it is having on Richmond. They will discuss what they can do to help. With each unit the knowledge of our location will be developed - Richmond is in London (Year 1) London is in the United Kingdom which is in the Northern Hemisphere (Year 2), introducing the timeline in Greenwich to describe our location (Year 3) and so on. Opportunities will be given for going over previously learnt knowledge so that key knowledge ends up in the children's long term memory. When developing our different curricula we will be looking for links across subjects again to embed previously learnt knowledge. We will share curricula with you in due course and ask for feedback.

Thank you for all your donations for the Ukrainian Refugees on Thursday.

Wishing you all a lovely, sunny, weekend,
Frances Bracegirdle

Upcoming Events

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
Fri 22 Apr	Earth Day Non-uniform Day
Mon 25 Apr	Beryl Class Assembly, 2:45pm
Tue 26 Apr	Moonstone Class Assembly, 2:45pm
Thu 28 Apr	Starlite Class Assembly, 2:45pm
Mon 2 May	May Day Bank Holiday - School Closed

Get the latest updates and photos by following the school on Twitter and Instagram!



@Vineyard_School



@thevineyardschool

Morning Drop-Off

We are delighted to move away from the drop-off arrangements that needed to be put in place due to the pandemic.

After Easter, parents will be permitted to come onto the school premises in the morning and drop their child/ren off by their classroom doors. As you are aware this is a busy time for teachers so there will be no opportunity to talk to them. If you have an important message please pop into the office or send an email to your child's year group email address (e.g year1@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk). Please note drop-off times are 08.30-08.40 and the register will be taken at 08.45. If your child arrives after 08.40 they will need to enter school via the office.

Useful links

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

Reception

This week we have been scientists in Reception. Each day we have been doing mini experiments to explain changing states of matter. We held an ice cube and watched carefully as the ice cube changed from a solid to a liquid. We added this new vocabulary to our vocabulary display in our classroom. We really enjoyed observing what happened to a giant sized chocolate button when we held it in our hands. Some children made predictions about what they thought might happen to the chocolate button. We soon realised that our hands were covered in chocolate and that the heat from our hands had made the chocolate melt! We discussed about irreversible changes when we put bread into a toaster. We used descriptive language to describe the bread before it was put in the toaster. We enjoyed listening to the popcorn kernels pop in the microwave and get bigger. The double cream turning into butter was the most challenging as we had to shake the jars with some force to see this change occur. We were so surprised and excited by this.

Year 1

Everyone in Year 1 has been particularly excited by the growth of our sunflower seeds in Science! We have used our observation skills to record what changes have occurred, and compared the changes with other plants in the class. In DT, we have been investigating stable structures, and have even designed our own structures. Next we will test the properties of different materials before we begin building! Our photos show the children designing their plans in DT, and observing changes in Science.

Year 2

We have had a really fun week in Year 2! This week we have built vehicles using different materials in DT. In English we have just learnt how to write speech bubbles and predict what might happen next in 'Vlad and the Great Fire of London'. We have been loving fractions in maths this week and we have been learning about a half, quarter and equivalent fractions. We are all really excited about our trip to the Tower of London, we can't wait to learn more about the Great Fire.

Year 3

Following on from last week's science lesson where we planned our experiment, we have been busy setting up our chosen experiment to investigate what plants need to survive. We look forward to observing what happens to our plants and to seeing if our predictions were correct. In computing, we learned how to order commands on Scratch. We used this to programme our sprites to make a sequence of sounds. What a cacophony of sounds were heard during that lesson! In Art, we have been building on our knowledge of colour to create some exceptional tonal paintings based on Paul Klee's work. Our awareness and concern for the environment stood out in geography this week when we discussed some of the human impacts on the coast. At the start of the week, we enjoyed exploring length using metre sticks in maths and progressed onto converting measurements in a variety of contexts. Our new book in Book Club has already taught some seriously interesting facts about Tudor life and we have even discovered that we can understand some Old English language.

Year 4

In Year 4 this week, we have had great fun orienteering in PE. The children demonstrated good team work skills to read and follow maps together. In science, the children used their knowledge of circuits and electrical currents to predict and test complete and incomplete circuits. They really enjoyed working with various components to power light bulbs. It has also been lovely to read poetry, by local poet Joseph Coelho, during our book club lessons.

Year 5

In maths, we have discovered how to add and subtract fractions. The Year 5 teachers have been so impressed with how hard the children have been working to improve their understandings of fractions. We have been learning about Ancient Greece and the Battle of Marathon in our history lessons. The children asked lots of interesting questions and were fascinated by the legend of Pheidippides. In science, we learned that 1:10 children do not have access to clean water. We planned and devised ways of filtering dirty water with success. Finally, on Friday, Year 5 celebrated the Hindu festival of Holi with a paint throwing experience in the learning garden and personal stories about the true meaning of colour during the festival of Holi.

Year 6

This week Year 6 have been continuing their work in English and history on women's suffrage. We have been examining the question 'Who was responsible for getting women the vote?', looking at the actions of the WSPU and the NUWSS. We have also looked at the damage done to the Orchid House and Tea Pavilion at Kew Gardens at the beginning of the 20th Century, examining sources to see who was responsible for the damage and why Kew Gardens itself was attacked. In maths we have been developing our understanding of ratio and applying this to problems, using bar models to support our learning. We've also been looking at refraction in science and understanding why it happens! Finally, we've been looking forward to our upcoming visit to the Globe to see Macbeth!

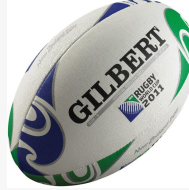
Photos



Sports News



Y6 Boys Football Vs The Russell School (home)



Tag Rugby Vs The Russell School (away)

Netball Tournament Vs Richmond schools (Barnes)



An unexpected player joined us for Football! The seagull showed great control of the ball, nudging it along with its beak!