

The Vineyard School

Friday 17th September 2022

Dear all families,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new families who have joined The Vineyard this year. Our youngest children are settling in really well as they start their journey through primary school. They are getting used to eating their lunch in the hall - cutting their food and clearing their plates as if they have been here for weeks. We are all looking forward to getting to know them and watching them learn and grow.

Curriculum overviews and meet the teacher

We hope you have found the 'meet the teacher' meetings useful this week. You can find the slides and the year group curriculum overviews on the relevant phase group tab. Here you can also find out what your child/ren have been doing in school this week and key messages for the year group.

We are also in the process of uploading skills and knowledge progression maps for each curricula area - so far the new [geography](#) and [history](#) curricula are uploaded. These will inform you about exactly what your child will be learning each term. I will update you when these are available.

Phonics and reading

You will have seen on the [dates](#) document two important parent events coming up in the next couple of weeks.

- KS1 phonics workshop for parents 9am (in person) & 5:30pm (on Zoom) on September 22nd.
- The importance of reading workshop for parents 6:15pm (in person) - all year groups welcome on September 28th.

Reading is a vital skill that your child needs to learn. Research clearly shows that the more exposure children have to books the wider their vocabulary and the more able they are to access the whole curriculum.

Vision and values

Following a period of consultation with the whole community: staff, parents, pupils and governors last year the vision and values have been reviewed.

The Vineyard Vision and Values

'Enabling all children to learn and grow'

The Vineyard School

Here at the Vineyard we are a child centric school. We are a school that nurtures the confidence and talents of a uniquely diverse community. Our goal is to instil a lifelong love of learning and create caring, courageous and curious children.

When children leave The Vineyard we want to wave goodbye to happy children who are respectful and care about the people and the world about them, have a strong sense of self, a curiosity about the world and confidence that they can learn and grow. Our ambition is that the strong foundation we have helped to plant, will enable Vineyard citizens to confidently navigate the challenges of the next stage in their development, enable them to find and nurture their passions and talents in life, so that they can ultimately identify and pursue healthy productive ways to contribute to society in adulthood.

We do this through our core values of being:

Caring

Courageous

Curious

By caring:

- we are inclusive – everyone is welcome in our school
- we are kind
- we respect each other, our similarities and our differences

By being courageous:

- we are able to take risks
- we stand up for each other
- we are able to make mistakes and learn from them

By being curious:

- we have a growth mindset
- we are creative

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- we love to learn

We embed these core values throughout the school and they are the driving principles of all facets of life at The Vineyard.

As a community, we use the values to set the culture of the school, to constantly challenge and push boundaries to deliver growth and excellence. We embrace a culture of learning from others and contributing to the learning of others around us.

Our core values are critically embedded in our enriched curriculum, a curriculum which has been sequentially written. This allows all children to build on the skills and knowledge they have been previously taught and supports all children to be their personal best. They form the foundation of our positive behaviour expectations and the conduct of our whole community. Excellent learning, engagement and self-esteem are built through providing an environment where everyone's contributions are recognised and valued.

Teaching, learning and wellbeing are underpinned by respect and care which we recognise as being intrinsic to both enjoyment and success at school. The strength of our progressive learning culture is based on the proactive nature and participation of all stakeholders, including our Governors, The Vineyard families and the wider community.

Questions or concerns

If you ever have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me either on the gate in the morning or by email to headteacher@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk. No question or concern is too small. I really encourage you to speak to me rather than worry about something. We are all here to work together to ensure the children get the school offer they truly deserve. Your questions and feedback are vital for this.

Wishing you a wonderful three-day weekend.

Best Wishes,

Frances Bracegirdle

Information for all

- [Hot school meal sign up or withdrawal form](#)
- [Photo permission consent form](#)
- [NSPCC assembly next week](#)
- To find out how to borrow books from our school library, please click on the [link](#). This will enable you to reserve a book using the library website and/or app, leave a book review and find out more on how you can volunteer to become part of the library team.

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Parent Volunteers

Thank you to those of you who have attended the training today. As mentioned there some documents you are required to read. You can find them here:

[Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy](#)

[Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy](#)

[Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)

