

NOVEMBER 2022 ISSUE 019

VINELINES

YOUR WEEKLY VINEHALL NEWSLETTER



Vinehall
A REPTON SCHOOL



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

"If you can fill the unforgiving minute with sixty seconds' worth of distance, run ..."

Despite the tempestuous weather; despite the colds and bugs that are doing the rounds; despite the days closing in on us, our children are persevering with great purpose in all that they do. Time seems to be flying with not a second lost.

As a friend of the Ashton family, Rudyard Kipling used to walk the Vinehall grounds finding peace and inspiration for his writing. For those of you who have joined us on our walks, you will agree that there is something very special here.

It was wonderful to see such strong support for our Year 5&6 play on Tuesday, where we enjoyed a myriad of Greek gods and classical myths rolled into an hour of gags and tunics. We will journey from Ancient Greece to Bethlehem now, as we look forward to our run of Pre-Prep nativities, our Carol Service, the FoV Secrets' Room and so much more.

Our children are certainly getting "a full taste of the Earth and everything that's in it" – as Mr Kipling would say.



Joff Powis

UPCOMING EVENTS

Little Vines Nursery – Santa's Workshop

Tuesday 29th November, 2.00-3.15pm

Year 6 Parents' Evening

Thursday 1st December, 5pm

Pre-Prep Play (Reception, Y1 & Y2)

Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd December, 2.00pm start

Carol Service

Saturday 3rd December, Salehurst Church, at 3.00pm

Vinehall Concert Series – European Union Chamber Orchestra

Sunday 4th December, 3.00pm start

To book tickets:

email: geoffreywhitehead@vinehallschool.com



FOCUS OF THE WEEK – REACH OUT! LIFE SKILLS

Our Monday morning assembly has never looked so colourful. Donning their odd socks, cheerful and bright, the Prep School children and teachers alike were united in positivity while expressing their individuality last week as we celebrated Anti-Bullying Week (14th-18th November). Long and short, blue and white, spotty and striped; the combinations were endless, but the resounding message was that here at Vinehall, we stand together against bullying:

'The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face-to-face or online.'

We understand that unkindness happens from time to time, but our children are empowered with this year's Anti-Bullying Alliance theme 'Reach out!' Our assembly looked at the different ways in which we can reach out (friends, family, trusted adults, teachers and even ourselves).

We were also reminded of 'the Worries Box' and our online 'Tell Us' app, which allows children to report a concern. Our assembly also looked at the different roles individuals play when bullying happens (the target, the ringleader, the reinforcer, the assistant, the defender and the outsider/bystander).

In their 'Call to Action', the Anti-Bullying Alliance also reached out to wider communities, as we all have an important role to play in spreading messages of positivity.

"And it doesn't stop with young people. From teachers to parents and influencers to politicians, we all have a responsibility to help each other reach out. Together, let's be the change we want to see. Reflect on our own behaviour, set positive examples and create kinder communities."

Messages of kindness, compassion, and determination filled the Sports Hall during our Anti-Bullying Week House Event last Wednesday. Ashton, Paxton, Rushton and Saxton joined together to engage in four activities that helped us understand the lasting impact of bullying, while reinforcing messages of kindness. While all Houses were wonderfully Engaged, it was Saxton who took first place, earning 49 house points from the event.

In the Life Skills room this half term, the children in Years 3-6 are learning 'Celebrating Difference', where lessons focus on age-appropriate discussions around what makes individuals unique, conflict, bullying, discrimination and prejudice.

Our Year 7s are learning a Religious Studies unit, 'Ethics and Values', which unpicks themes around conscience, making good choices, justice and forgiveness.

Our Year 8s continue with their unit 'Careers and Money', which aims to ready them for interviews, the workplace, and managing personal finance.

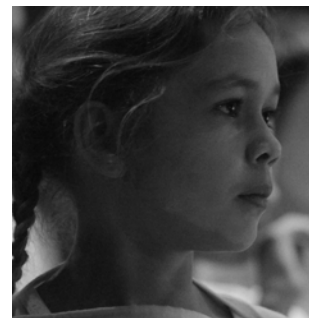


DRAMA

On Tuesday evening the Chaplin Theatre was transported to Ancient Greece for a crazy mish-mash of myths rolled into the Year 5&6 performance of 'Pandemonium'.

Honor H was simply charming as the confused innocent Pandora, negotiating her way through a labyrinthine plot to save the world with some Hope. Her new husband was played by Felix G, desperately tongue-tied by infatuation. William H and Helene AB were wonderful as the dopey hippies, Orpheus and Eurydice; and Frankie F was a brilliantly vain Narcissus, with Summer P as the gossip Echo. Albert M made an authoritative and avaricious Midas, turned to gold accidentally by the drunken Dionysus, Cecily G. Isabel SM was a suitably nasty Hades, with Isla B majestic as his all-powerful brother Zeus and Matilda B gorgeous as his vindictive wife, Hera. Lorelei F was a total revelation as Eros; and Poppy O and Mia G did a fantastic job as father and son, Daedalus and Icarus. We had gods and goddesses, nymphs and mortals, good and bad, hapless heroes (Louis L, India P, Alara K, Timofii L and Jack L) and hideous monsters, together with a whole crowd of painted chorus members guiding us through the story maze.

I am enormously grateful to a wonderful group of parents who helped with this production, finding and making costumes and collecting props. Also to Gayle Fernau for the beautiful backdrop. As always, hugest thanks to the amazing Kate Hunt who coordinated everything with calm, efficient creativity.



[view more photos here](#)

ACADEMIC

Year 3

To exchange or not to exchange, that is the question!

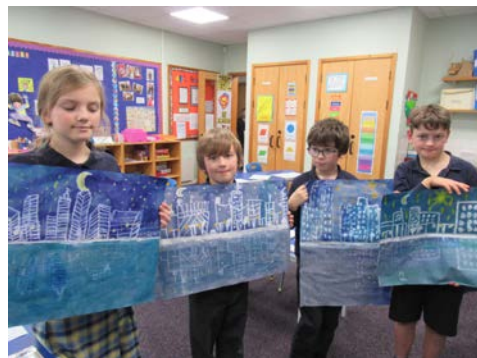
Year 3 had to put on their thinking caps in Maths this week as they explored 'renaming' in column addition and subtraction. Like Billy Bee, they tried to be 'good partners' by guiding each other to calculate, by giving thoughtful suggestions and questions. A helpful partner does not just blurt out the answer!



Year 4

Following Instructions

The children have been working on features of instructions in English. Their task was to follow the instructions to create a picture. They found it hard not to just follow their friends and 'follow the instructions!' was a repeated refrain as I tried to prevent them from asking me! However, their creations looked good in the end.



ACADEMIC

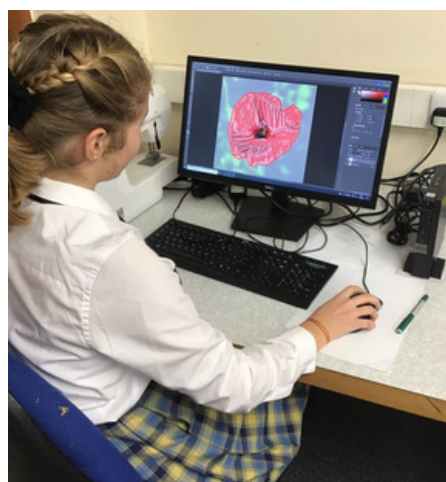
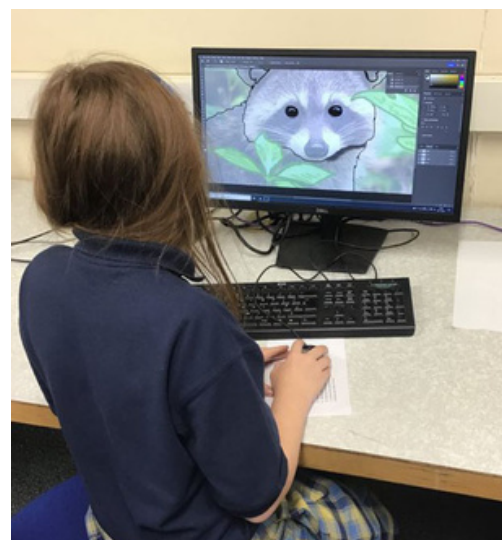
Art Ambassadors

This term, we have made use of the updated computers and software in the Art block.

The Year 6 pupils have been practising their computing skills by organising their digital art files and experimenting with the numerous tools on Photoshop.

They have looked at working on different layers and how to use a photograph to design images for their Pop Art project.

Thank you to Darren Eglington for setting this up for us!



SPORTS

Match Reports

via Mobile

Please follow these instructions - [click here](#)
(then click sport tab > select sport >
Select team > select the fixture > select report)

via Desktop or Tablet

please [click here](#)

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Swimming

Our Year 5&6 Swim Squad put on a good display at home to Claremont. It was a competitive and exciting gala, in a great atmosphere, with parents from both schools packed into the seating area. Vinehall came out the winner by 146-102. Well done to all our swimmers.

Last week, over 30 swimmers travelled to Eastbourne College for the boys' and girls' St Andrew's cups. The Year 6 girls won Gold in their age group. Overall, we came 3rd in both events. It was a very tough evening for the children, with close races not quite going our way. We live to swim another day!

ISGA National 2 Piece & 4piece Gymnastics Championships

Last weekend the U10, U11 and U13 teams travelled to Kent College Pembury to compete in the IAPS National 2 Piece Championships & the IAPS 4 Piece Gymnastics Championships.

The U10 gymnasts took to the gymnastics arena first, with the addition of Margot C & Betsy S joining Rosie A, Lucie B, Indira H and Rosa A. The girls competed in the 4 Piece competition and performed some beautiful voluntary floor routines. Rosie came top of the team, scoring 31.9, with Betsy close behind with a score of 31.2

The U11 team of Honor H, Isla B, Issy D-D and Isobel S-M gave very confident and sound performances on set floor and voluntary vault. Issy came top of the team with a total score of 17.7, with Honor close behind scoring 17.5.

Huge congratulations once again to the U13 gymnasts, who had another fantastic competition, winning gold in the team event. Elizabeth H, India A, Rosie D, Elizabeth H, Isla H and Alessandra K gave outstanding performances on set floor and voluntary vault. They were delighted to be crowned U13 team champions and were presented with the IAPS U13 2 Piece Silver Plate. Individual medals were awarded to Rosie in 1st place, Elizabeth in 2nd, India 3rd, Alessandra 4th and Isla 6th. Rosie was also presented with the IAPS 2 Piece individual champion, Silver Plate.

An absolutely brilliant day - very well done to all the gymnasts!



BOOK FAIR BONANZA



The Prep School and the Pre-Prep enjoyed double-whammy Book Fairs this week, on Tuesday and Thursday respectively, with record numbers of books bought just in time for the Christmas holiday period.

As the nights draw in and the weather gets increasingly blustery outside, there is nothing better than keeping cosy with a book and a cup of hot chocolate.

Prep School children bought over £1000 of books, enabling the Library to take their pick of a range of excellent fiction and non-fiction titles with the commission earned by their purchases.

Pre-Prep children bought over £700 of books, enabling the class teachers to buy a wonderful array of stunning new books for every class to share and enjoy. The Pre-Prep Hall was buzzing with excited children who could not wait to choose their own book. Nothing entices children into wanting to read more than selecting a beautiful new book with high-quality text and illustrations. As Dr Seuss said "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go."

Many thanks to Rosemary Hill for bringing the books to us!



LITTLE VINES NURSERY

Life skills

Vinehall is known for its wonderful family community and this week the Little Vines children have been reading the story of 'Stickman' by Julia Donaldson. We have been talking about our families and the children brought in photographs to create a family tree on our display board. We used different media and materials to support and develop the children's understanding of how important our families are.



Kindergarten

Celebrating diversity!

Kindergarten have had such a wonderful term learning about and celebrating different festivals from around the world. We have learnt about Diwali, Loi Kathrong, Bonfire Night and this week it has been Hanukkah. We have cooked Latkes, created our own candles for our Menorah, acted out the story of the Maccabees and used a Dreidel game to help us count.

What a memorable week!



PRE-PREP

Reception

Reception have had a fabulous week exploring the secret forest. Our week started with discovering and understanding the words 'nocturnal' and 'diurnal'. The children had a range of animals they had to sort into the two categories and think about the similarities and differences of the animals. They then created their own maps, including British woodland creatures that can be found around the school grounds. We then estimated the footprints of different animals so that when we go into the woods, we can identify the tracks. Of course, the only footprints missing were humans. We used paint to print our hands and feet; we then used them to play a game of 'guess the footprint'.

The highlight of the week for many of the children was the book fair!



PRE-PREP

Year 1

Year 1 worked together like Billy Bee this week and filled their pot of 'good behaviour beans!' A special prize arrived in the post from an astronaut asking them if they wanted to try 'real' astronaut food! The children used their senses to describe the food and all agreed that they would not mind eating in space if they could eat the delicious ice cream at every meal! We explored light and shadows in our dark room and experimented with opaque and transparent materials. Finally, we blasted off to the moon learning facts, while also learning to be 'good team members' supporting one another even if our team lost.

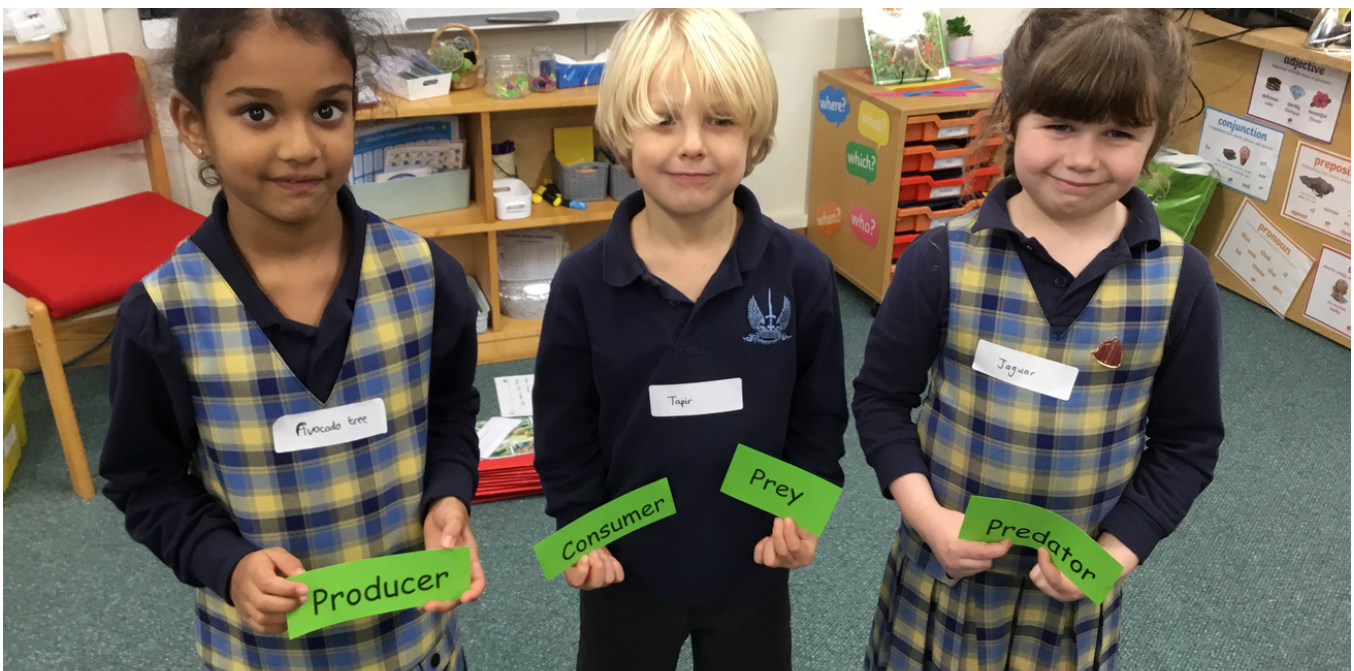
Well done on being so cooperative Year 1!



PRE-PREP

Year 2

As part of our Learning Journey this week, the children found out about which animals live in the different layers of the rainforest and why they live in that habitat. We also learned about food chains, discovering that food chains usually start with a plant; and that some animals are predators, some are prey and some are both! The children were given labels and had to make their own rainforest food chains, deciding whether they were producers or consumers and from where they got their energy.



LITTLE VINES TODDLER GROUPS

The Little Vines Toddler Groups are a great introduction to school, offering a supportive network for parents as well as the opportunity for children to develop their communication skills and learn through exploration.



LITTLE VINES
EXPLORERS

Explorers – Monday, 10am - 11am

Grab your wellies and get outside with our wonderful School Horticulturist. Immerse your little ones in the great outdoors, with hands-on activities themed around nature and gardening.

BOOK NOW



LITTLE VINES
SPORTS
STARS

Sports Stars – Wednesday, 10am - 10.30am

Join our amazing Director of Sport, for a fun-filled session, giving your little one a chance to run, jump, hop, skip, catch and throw, while developing their sporting skills.

BOOK NOW



LITTLE VINES
MESSY
MONKEYS

Messy Monkeys – Friday, 8.45am - 10am

Don your messy clothes and experience a variety of interactive, themed-based activities designed to stimulate and entertain your little monkey.

End the session with a cascade of bubbles before enjoying popular songs and rhymes with our Head of Pre-Prep.

BOOK NOW



CELEBRATIONS

Pre-Prep

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery

Eva SC

Kindergarten

Winnie

Evie

Reception

Freddie

Year 1

Henry SC

Shahaan

Year 2

Florence

Isabel



VINEHALL BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday

PRE-PREP

ARCHIE M, HALLIE M, OSCAR H &
IMOGEN P

PREP

FLORENCE B, JUNCHI C & CASPER K



Second Hand Uniform

There is a stock of good quality second-hand uniform available from the School Matron. Please email: matrons@vinehallschool.com if you would like to arrange an appointment.

A uniform list is available on our website. [Click here to view.](#)



Football Camp

Mr Attwood will be running a football camp at Vinehall over the Christmas break.

When: 22nd December 2022

Time: 10am – 3pm

Venue: Astro or Sports Hall (weather permitting)

Details:

The course is open to all boys and girls aged 5-13.

The cost is £20 for the day.



To book your child's place please contact: zattwood@vinehallschool.com