

NOVEMBER 2022 ISSUE 018

VINELINES

YOUR WEEKLY VINEHALL NEWSLETTER



Vinehall
A REPTON SCHOOL



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

On Thursday evening I was delighted to attend a Vines' networking event at the Voces8 Centre in London. It was wonderful to see all generations of alumni there, and to hear them speak so fondly of their time at Vinehall. Many are in regular contact with their old friends and had numerous happy stories to tell of their prep school days at Vinehall. A running theme was a sense of community, of service to others and of the deep gratitude for such a special, informative and joyful time in their childhood. I was once again reminded of just how fortunate we are in our Vinehall family: with the children blossoming in our care on this incredible school site; with loyal parents who give so much time and support to the whole school experience; and with increasingly involved grandparents, who visit regularly and show great interest in their grandchildren's schooling. Excitedly, we now have the wider Repton family with whom to link, offering a national and international perspective to our community's sense of belonging.

Last week's fantastic firework display showed just how hard our Friends of Vinehall work to provide events to remember for the whole community. I would like to thank our new Chairs, Charlotte Lyon and Amy Eastall, for taking over the reins this term; and once again to mention my appreciation to two former stalwarts, Fran Hanmer and Gayle Fernau, for all they have given to our community.

In his 'Life's Little Instruction Book', H Jackson Brown noted that "the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more" and I believe Vinehall still prepares its children exceptionally well for a very happy life of giving. Our Vines were so pleased to hear that the ethos of the school continues to revolve around 'doing your best for the benefit of others'.



Joff Powis

FIREWORKS NIGHT



What a night! A huge throng of children, parents, staff and visitors from the local community had a spectacular evening to 'remember, remember'. Delicious food and drinks, glowsticks galore and fun with friends before a spectacular display of pyrotechnics! Thank you to the efficient and dedicated army of volunteers who made it all happen.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Monday 21st November, Front Hall & Dining Room, 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Year 5 & 6 Dress Rehearsal (9.30am – 11.30am)

Year 5 & 6 Play at 7pm

Tuesday 22nd November

Prep School Book Fair

Tuesday 22nd November

Year 7 & 8 Trip to Stratford-upon-Avon

Thursday 23rd November, Depart: 8.30am

Pre-Prep Book Fair

Thursday 24th November

Year 7 & 8 Trip to Stratford-upon-Avon

Friday 25th November, Return: 5pm

Bluewater Shopping Trip

Saturday 26th November

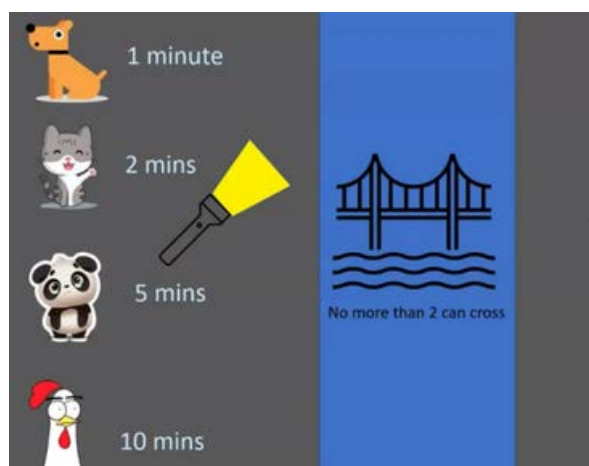


FOCUS OF THE WEEK – MATHEMATICS

Maths Week England always sparks enthusiasm and excitement throughout the school and this year was no different. In addition to the variety of learning opportunities in the children's daily Maths lessons, specific events make this week extra special. Billy Bee would have been proud of the collaboration shown in our annual Great House Race at the beginning of the week. The school was split into Years 3&4, Years 5&6 and Years 7&8 for their own competitions. In their House teams of two or three, the children tackled a variety of problems, some visual and some more numerical and of course some good running was required to get the answer sheet to the scorers then all the way to the back of the hall and back to their tables. Never have I heard so many screams of excitement over a correct answer on a Maths problem! The final tally is eagerly awaited and will be announced in Monday's assembly.



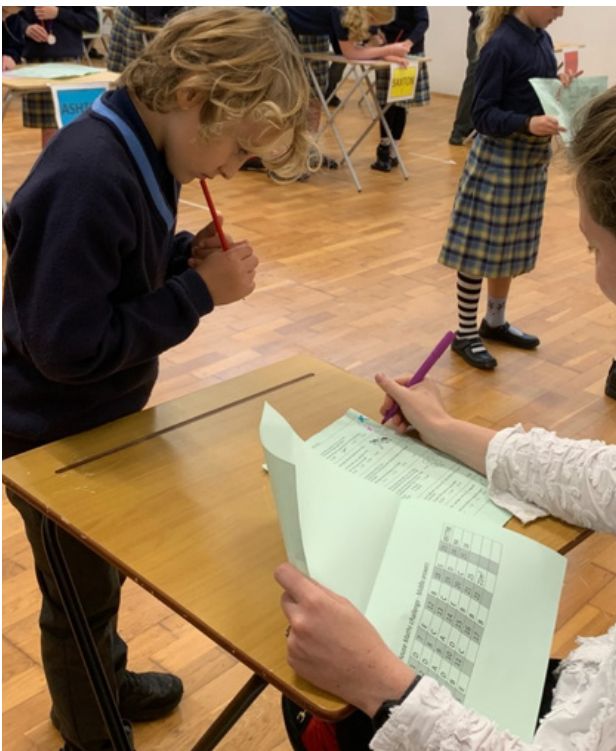
There have also been daily challenges for the children to attempt and the number of children rushing to my door to collect them has steadily increased as the week progressed. These have needed an inquisitive eye, like Cassie the cat, and a lot of reflection, like Ollie the Owl. A good technique when you don't know where to start with a problem, is being courageous like Maisie the Monkey and trying some numbers to see what happens. From there, patterns often show themselves. Have a go at the form time question below with your family. Each animal must get to the other side of the river using a boat that can only carry two and only travel at the pace of the slowest of the pair. What is the quickest time they can all get across. Clue: The answer is not 19! Year 3 did this brilliantly with their toys to help.



FOCUS OF THE WEEK – MATHEMATICS

The Years 5&6 had the added bonus of attempting the Primary Maths Challenge (with other year groups having their chance later in the year). Working individually on new problems takes more resilience, like Terry the Turtle, but all the children did brilliantly in attempting increasingly difficult problems, the results of which will come out next week.

What a fabulous week of Maths we have had!



BOARDING



The boarders had an action-packed weekend, filled with lots of fun and laughter. On Friday evening Vinehall held the famous and fabulous fireworks display, which all the boarders enjoyed watching with their friends.

On Saturday some of the day pupils joined them on the annual London trip, which consisted of visiting famous sites including Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace. They all had a wonderful day. However, the highlight didn't come from the sites but from the children participating in a 'stag do' running race.

On Sunday the children all looked very smart when they attended a Remembrance Day service in the 800-year-old Mountfield Church, where they all paid their respects and behaved impeccably. Sunday afternoon consisted of many different sports, including a football match – gappers v boarders. Needless to say, the gappers lost by a lot!

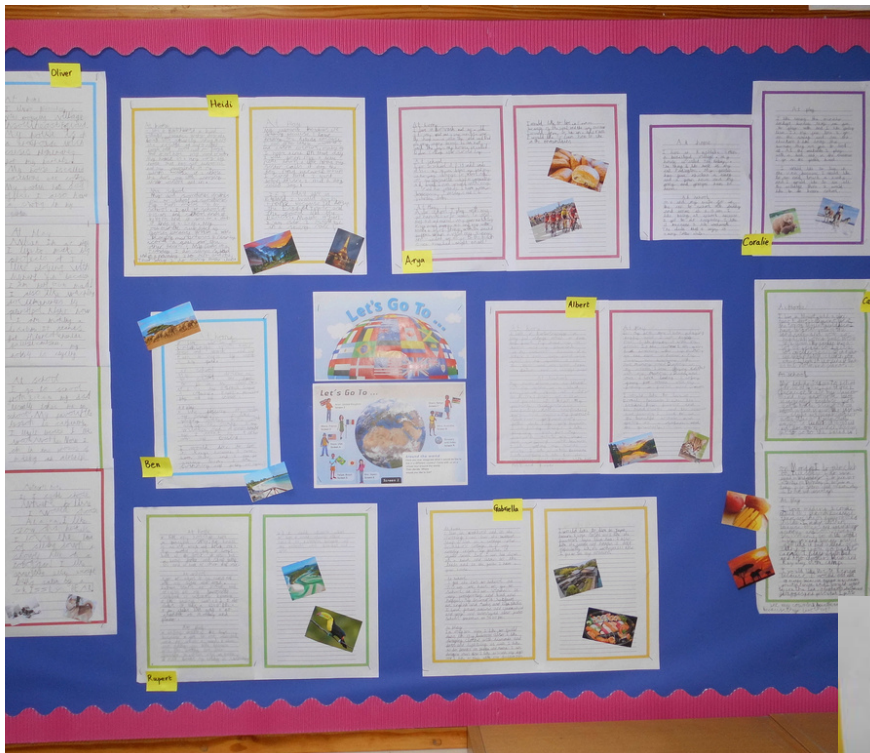
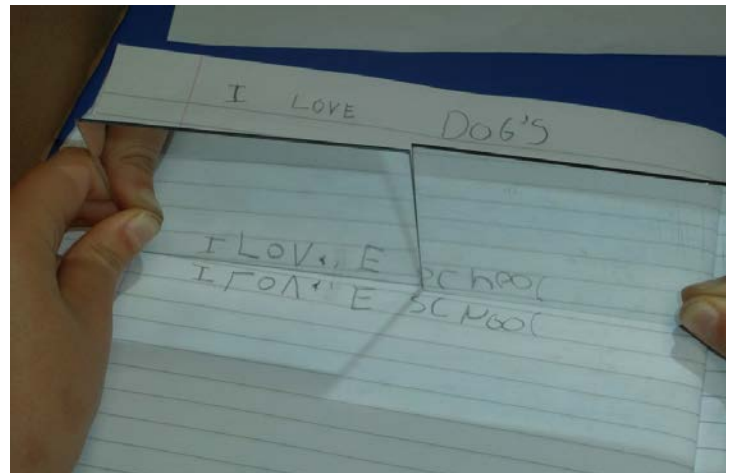
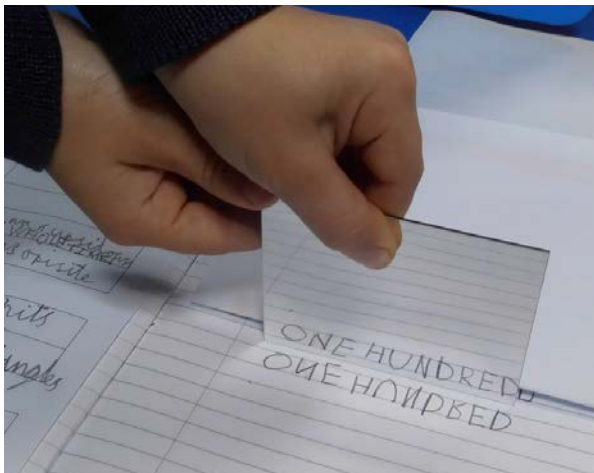


ACADEMIC

Year 3

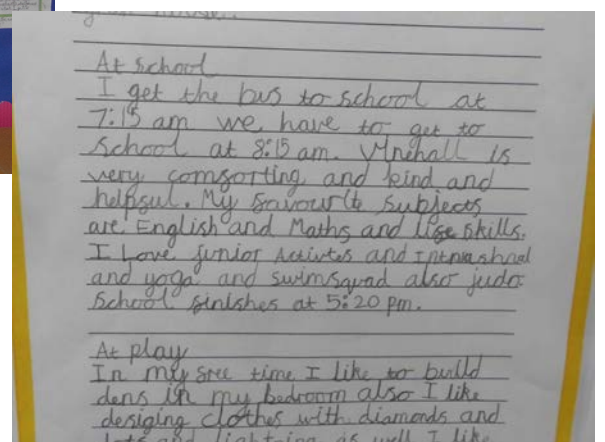
Mirror Investigations

'Why?' is a question that scientists need to ask, and then answer, through practical investigative tasks. Year 3 spent time exploring reflective and non-reflective surfaces. They loved writing messages for their friends to decode, using mirrors. Tracing a line proved more difficult because they had to use a mirror to see the image! The hinged mirrors were fun to use and really got us all thinking about how the images bounce back and forth.



Around the World

Having read, retrieved and collated information about children living in different parts of the world, 3E composed paragraphs about their own homes, school and hobbies. Then they wrote some super reports ending with their own answer to the question, 'Where would you like to live?'.



Year 4

Science

Today we looking at heating and cooling materials. The children use thermometers and learnt about the use of salt when it gets cold.



Cooking

The Juniors have been cooking in preparation for our parent coffee morning in the De Beer block.



Year 5

A Taste of a Seder Meal

As part of Religious Studies, Year 5 have been learning about Judaism. Having heard the story of Moses, this week they learnt about what the festival of Passover means to Jewish people today, and what the different foods of the Seder meal symbolise. Chef Gemma kindly prepared a 'taster' menu with lamb, eggs, horseradish, parsley dipped in salt water, stewed apple with cinnamon, pink juice (red wine was off the menu!) and Matzah bread crackers. Some children tried everything and most tried something!



SPORTS

Rugby Season Begins!

The boys have enjoyed a wet and muddy start to the rugby season!



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

Cross Country

On Friday, a group of Cross-Country runners made the short trip down the A21 to Claremont for their annual Dobson Trophy event. With the weather perfect for running, the six teams did a brilliant job and can be incredibly pleased with their efforts against twenty other schools. Special mention must go to the U11 boys' team who finished 2nd in their event.



Notable individual results:

- Indira H - 6th U9 Girls
- Charlie C - 5th U11 Boys
- Borja C - 7th U11 Boys
- Henry C - 6th U13 Boys
- India A - 8th U13 Girls



ISGA National 2 Piece Gymnastics Championships

Last weekend the U10, U11 and U13 teams travelled to St Catherine's School Bramley, in Guildford to compete in the ISGA National 2 Piece Gymnastics Championships.

Competing for the very first time, the U10 team of Rosie A, Rhiain E, Indira H, Lucie B and Rosa A all performed with great confidence. Rosie came top of the team and was awarded a 5th place medal for her efforts.

The U11 team of Honor H, Isla B, Issy D-D and, competing for the first time, Isobel S-M, produced some very strong vaults and confident set floor routines. Issy was in top place for the team; she scored a very impressive 9.40 for her voluntary vault.

Many congratulations to the U13 team who had an amazing competition, winning gold in the team event. Excellent performances by India A, Rosie D, Elizabeth H, Isla H and Alessandra K. Individual medals were also awarded to Rosie 1st place, Elizabeth in 2nd place and India 5th. Alessandra & Isla came 8th and 9th.



LITTLE VINES NURSERY

Seasonal Celebrations

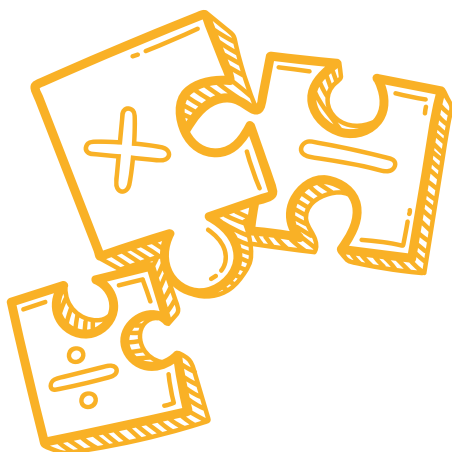
Mathematical fun and games happen all around us every day at Little Vines Nursery. This week we have been learning number rhymes and celebrating World Nursery Rhyme Day; the children's favourite was 'Five Little Speckled Frogs.' We read the story of 'The Gruffalo' and taught the children to sequence the story, as well as match the characters using cut-out puppets. Understanding patterns also kept us busy and the children learnt about using colours to create patterns.



Kindergarten

Celebrating Maths Week

In Kindergarten we had great fun celebrating maths week. The children had the opportunity to take part in a range of different activities to explore the numbers 1-3. A real highlight for them all was singing Hickory Dickory Dock and finding the numbers on the clocks.



PRE-PREP

Reception

Reception have had a brilliant week exploring the book 'Orion and the Dark' by Emma Yarlett. It started with a magical drama workshop in the Chaplin theatre, where the children acted out parts of the story and thought about fears. We then used the book to create our own versions of the dark to take on an adventure. The children also used the stars to create patterns on their creatures. We then used the stars within our maths session to think about making 5. After the children thought about some of their own fears, we helped each other come up with ways to help each other feel less scared.



PRE-PREP

Year 1

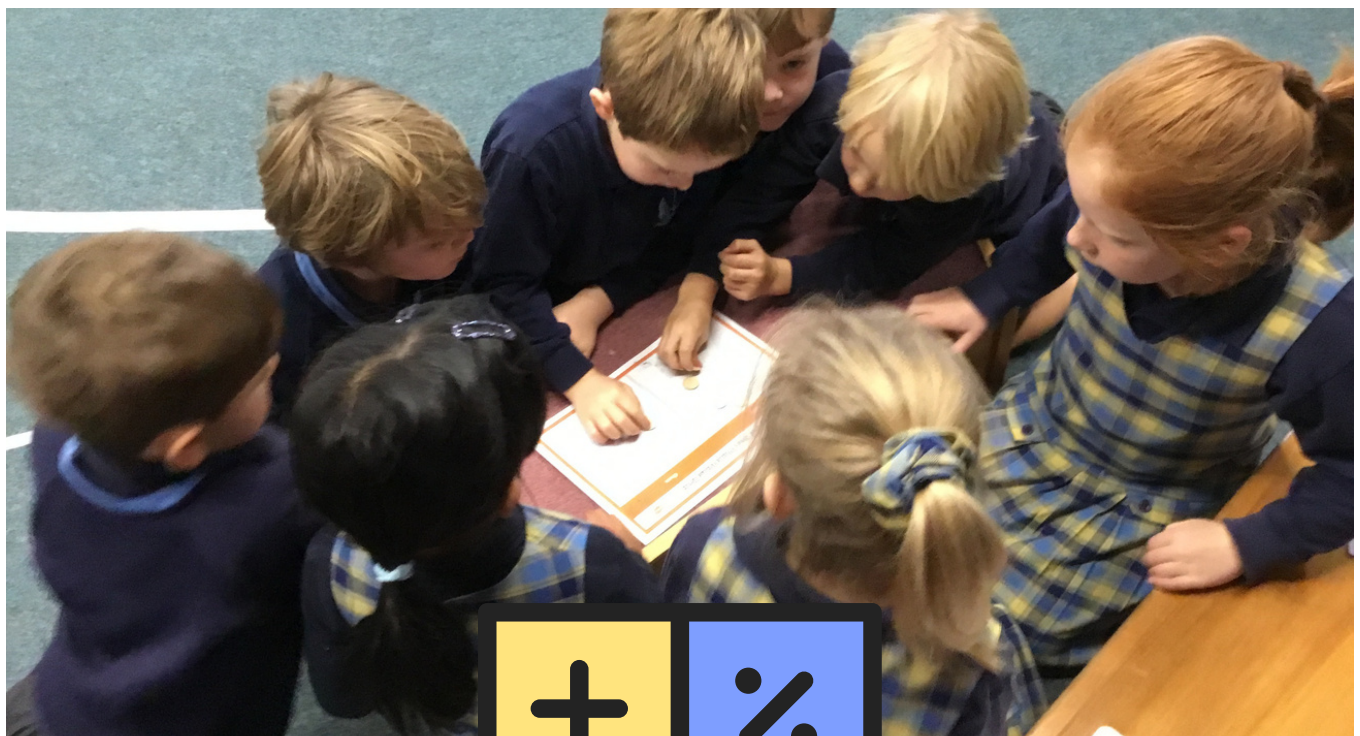
Year 1 became investigative scientists this week by experimenting with force and gravity as they propelled a rocket in the air (unfortunately, due to the high winds, they could only fly as high as the hall would allow). The children designed their own 2-D rockets and used ribbon to practise their weaving skills. In extending our science theme through English, the children experimented with light and dark, casting shadows as they retold their story of 'Beegu'. Well done Year 1 for being inquisitive like Cassie Cat this week !



PRE-PREP

Year 2

During Maths Week, Year 1 and Year 2 got together in the hall to complete some maths challenges. We all had a go at each challenge, using concrete resources to help us solve the problems. One activity involved making different-sized monsters; another required the children to make as many numbers as possible using six counters and a tens and ones grid; then the children had to use five coins to make different amounts of money; and the last challenge involved finding as many totals as possible using two dice. Everyone had to work like Billy Bee to solve the problems and had great fun working with each other.



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

Annabelle G

Kindergarten

Rey K

Reception

**Oscar C
Forrest**

Year 1

**Adeline
Persie**

Year 2

**Barnaby
Monty**



VINEHALL BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday

PRE-PREP

HENRY P AND ARIADNE L

PREP

ALESSANDRA K, REX L & POPPY C



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.](#)**

