

SEPTEMBER 2022 ISSUE 013

# VINELINES

YOUR WEEKLY VINEHALL NEWSLETTER



Vinehall  
A REPTON SCHOOL



## EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES



# MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

## The Vinehall Conker Season 2022

### Letting Children be Children

As summer finally gives way to a rather fresh autumnal feel, I am delighted to announce the start of a definite highlight of the school year – the Vinehall Conker Season!

A conker fight brings the child out in all of us and I hope that all parents will join in the spirit, ready the bootlaces and get out and about this weekend with your children in search of some winners! Conker fighting at school during breaktimes will be allowed for a two-week period, though needs to be kept outside please ...

### Rules of play:

- Two players, each with a conker threaded on a piece of string or a shoelace, take it in turn to hit each other's conker, until there is one conker left.

- The first player holds out their conker at arm's length, hanging down, ready to be hit. The string should be wrapped around his or her hand to stop it being dropped.

- They must hold the conker still as the other player hits it. If it accidentally swings, the second player can steady it before they take a strike.

- The second player then wraps the string of his or her conker around their hand, draws it back and takes aim.

- He or she lets go of the conker as they swing their arm in an arc and tries to hit the other person's conker.

- The first player then has a go at hitting the other player's conker and they take it in turns.

(NOTE: If the player deliberately moves his or her conker while waiting for it to be hit, the other player is allowed another go.)

- There is no 'stamping' allowed. If a player drops the string, he/she may pick it back up.

- The fight is over once one of the conkers breaks apart or falls off the string.

It is time to go bonkers for conkers!



Joff Powis

# SCHOOL LIFE

## Family History

On Tuesday 27th September, Vinehall gave a warm welcome to Mel Humphries-Cuff, the great, great-granddaughter of William Rushton Adamson. Mel and her Husband Philip visited Vinehall to explore the house and grounds of what was her ancestral home from 1860-1902, then known as Rushton Park.

Mel shared some family stories and enjoyed meeting the Headmaster, Joff Powis.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Open Week

Monday 3rd - Friday 7th October

### Science Planetarium Show

Tuesday 4th October, 8.30am - 12.30pm (Years 5-8)

### Year 2 Great Fire of London Drama Workshop

Wednesday 5th October

### National Poetry Day

### Reception Open Morning

Thursday 6th October 2022

### Autumn Walk for Pre-Prep Parents & Children

Friday 7th October, 8.40am

### Year 6 Science Trip to Down House

Friday 7th October, All day. White shirt & tie required.

### Family Apple Day

Saturday 8th October, 12.30 - 3.30pm



# FOCUS OF THE WEEK – MFL

## Vinehall Celebrates a Global Outlook

The 26th September is the European Day of Languages, an event organised across 42 countries. At Vinehall we are very lucky to have many ways to discover other cultures and languages. Our children have opportunities to learn French, Spanish and Latin, to travel abroad and to meet international friends at school.

As part of the celebrations this week, teachers shared information about their own language skills and travels, which prompted some fascinating discussions. Our children show curiosity about the wider world which we are keen to encourage.

Madame Clayton organised a very popular international food tasting for the seniors. As virtual gourmet tourists, the children tasted cheeses from Greece, Italy, France and the Netherlands; meats and types of sausage from Poland, Germany, Spain and Italy; as well as Spanish tortilla, Swedish rye crispbread, Greek olives, Polish gherkins, Spanish pomegranates and French croissants and pains au chocolat. Some brave pupils tried new foods for the first time; others were excited to spot favourite treats.

In Pre-Prep, the Kindergarten children enjoyed a special French-themed day, learning greetings and colours, and finding out about places in France. They tasted croissants and Camembert cheese and coloured their names in the colours of the Tricolore flag – bleu, blanc et rouge.

The European Day of Languages was rounded off with a special quiz at International Club, which became quite competitive. The winning team, "les croissants blancs" (Hannah, Isla and Sonia), managed to score the most points, impressively naming languages, countries and capitals.

**Calling all artists!** The international competition to design a T-shirt for next year's EDL is now open. Designs need to fit within 30x30cm and should be in only three colours. Please bring in or send entries to Madame Clayton, who will submit them to the judges. Details can be found at: <https://edl.ecml.at/Activities/EDLT-ShirtContest/tabid/3147/Default.aspx>

### Secret Agents – Language Challenges app

This has been created to encourage young linguists, you can download the app and move through the levels for completing challenges about different languages.

<https://edl.ecml.at/Activities/Languagechallengeapp/tabid/3225/Default.aspx>





## Author Tom Palmer, visits Vinehall

This week best-selling author, Tom Palmer, came to Vinehall and impressed us all with his friendly, down-to-earth personality and his stories.

When I first told my form that Tom was coming, one of my Year 6 pupils nearly exploded with excitement! We have over thirty of Tom's books in our library (he has written 57 books in total) and I knew that the children would love to hear what he has to say about reading, writing and books.

I regularly receive emails from parents worried about their children being reluctant readers or who want to know how to inspire them to get stuck into new topics. Tom writes about football, rugby and mystery/detective fiction; he also writes historical fiction so he hits a lot of areas of interest. It was fascinating to hear that he has started to develop an obsession with the Iron Age - I think we will see him going further back in time soon.

Tom spoke to pupils from Years 4-8 about his books, which include "After the War" and his latest novel, "Resist", about a young girl who is part of the anti-Nazi resistance in German-occupied Holland during the Second World War.

Tom spoke about his struggles with reading when he was at school and explained how he grew to love reading through his passion for football. It was fascinating hearing all about how he makes a scrapbook first when he writes a book (which he showed us for "Resist"). As Hattie R (Year 5) put it, he was "very inspiring"!

Tom invited pupils to ask him questions about his work and then signed books for the children, many of whom purchased one or two of his novels at the end. The children asked him thoughtful, incisive and often bold questions. Alessandra K (Year 7) asked him "How many books has your editor said no to?" which made us smile. It was fascinating to hear how hard Tom has to work to make his editor happy, sometimes even changing the title of the book because the editor doesn't like his first choice.

At the end, the children queued up to have their chosen books signed by Tom, with an individual personalised message from him in each book.

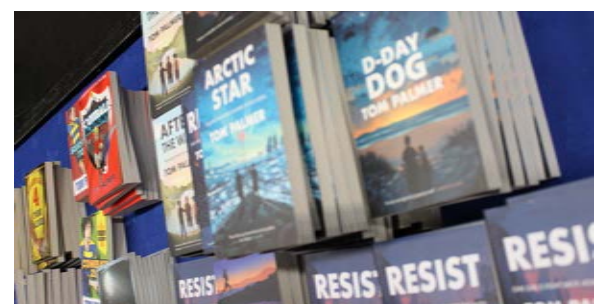
*Margot C (Year 5) declared: "I didn't expect him to have written so many books!"*

*Arlo K (Year 7) added: "I thought it was cool meeting him because I haven't really met an author before".*

*Dora G (Year 7) agreed, noting "he didn't make it boring because he asked us interesting questions".*

This is a photo of Kingsley N (Year 7) reading one of Tom's novels, "After the War". When asked about Tom Palmer's visit to Vinehall, Kingsley said: "He seemed really nice and his talk was very interesting. I bought his book 'After the War' and I'm already on page 100!"

E.Platt



# SPORTS

## Cross Country Team

Congratulations to the eight pupils who took part in the Brenchley Relay at Saint Ronan's last Friday. Running in atrocious conditions, both teams did brilliantly, with the girls finishing 5th and the boys 4th overall. A special mention must go to Henry C who finished the day as the fastest runner over the course.



## 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](#)

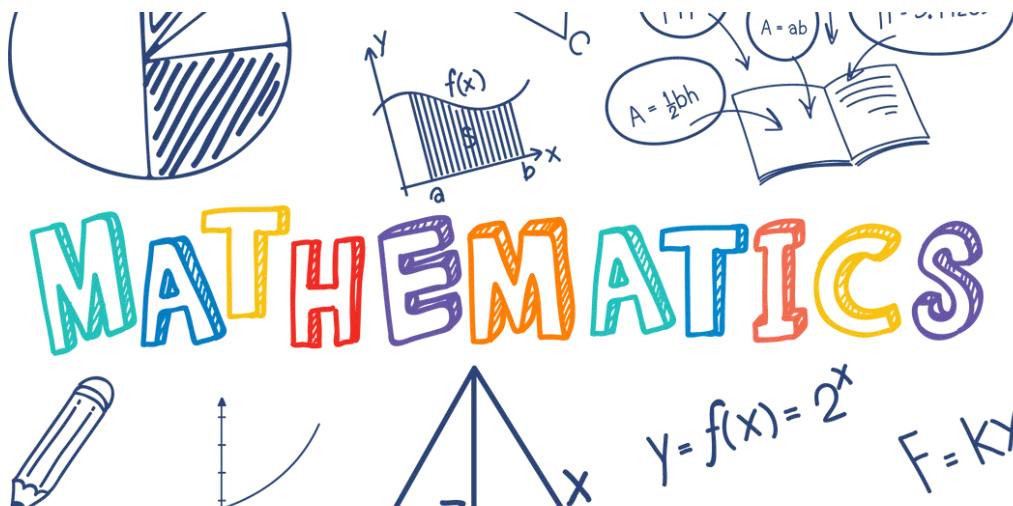


## EVENTS & TRIPS



### Year 5 Maths Challenge at St Andrew's

Well done to all our Year 5 mathematicians who took part in the Maths challenge at St Andrew's, being collaborative and courageous when faced with many different maths puzzles. Particular congratulations to Masa M and Harvey P who came second out of all 33 teams.



# MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF PRE-PREP

By introducing your child to a second language at a young age, you are taking advantage of the critical time when acquiring language skills comes naturally and easily. A child's capacity to pronounce unfamiliar, foreign sounds and to absorb new grammar rules is highly enhanced prior to age six. It also gives children a chance of greater fluency and access to countless professional opportunities later on. Spanish is the second most-spoken language in the world, spoken by 387 million people. Both English and Spanish share roots in Latin but more people speak Spanish than English, and the opportunities for Spanish speakers across the globe are endless!

Thus, we are delighted that we have been able to offer Spanish lessons to our children in Years 1 and 2 this term, delivered by our new native Spanish speaking teacher Daniela Pampin. Although Daniela is our Nursery Teacher, we could not afford to neglect the opportunity of enabling her to teach Spanish to the children in Pre-Prep. This afternoon the chanting of "Uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, seis, siete, ocho, nueve, diez" rang out loud and clear as the children in Year 2 warmed up for their third Spanish lesson of the term. It seems that playing bingo in Spanish is the perfect way to learn your numbers!



Nicky Whittaker





# LITTLE VINES NURSERY

## European Languages Week



This week we have been celebrating European Day of Languages. Our lovely Miss Pampin, who was born in Spain, taught us how to sing 'Cabeza, hombros; rodillas, pies,' (Head, shoulders, knees and toes.) We also learnt how to make Gazpacho; we cut the tomatoes and learnt how to operate the blender. We were just like Maisie Monkey trying something new!



## Kindergarten



Oh la la!

Kindergarten had a wonderful day on Monday celebrating all things French! We had our first French lesson, completed lots of French themed activities and even tried some French food.

One of our favourite parts was playing in our Parisian cafe. We pretended to order from a French menu and happily paid with our Euros.



# PRE-PREP

## Reception

Reception have been travelling through space in a hot air balloon; it has been such a hullabaloo. They have explored the planets and created their own balloons to travel in. To celebrate the International Day of Languages, we used our hot air balloons to explore earth and think about the languages they speak all over the world. The Reception children were also able to share some of the languages spoken at home and if they have heard other languages when travelling. Over the week we have been learning to say hello in a range of different languages.



## Year 1

Year 1 had their first trip of the year to the Bexhill Museum today and it was fantastic! The children learnt about the past and dressed up as Victorians, experiencing what it was like to go to school in the Victorian times. They handled toys from the past and compared them with the toys they play with today. We are very proud of the children for their good listening and behaviour and are sure they will come home with a greater appreciation for the life they live as they share the many adventures they experienced today. Well done Year 1!





# PRE-PREP

## Year 2

The highlight of our week was the trip to Battle Fire Station on Monday. Everyone showed great curiosity, just like Cassie Cat, asking the firefighters thoughtful questions about their equipment and tools. We were thrilled to try using the hoses to hit targets set out for us, as well as drenching one of the poor firefighters helping us!

We also spent time outside in our beautiful grounds, building wattle and daub walls, as they would have used in Tudor times. Most of the children loved getting muddy and it helped us understand why the fire spread so quickly during the Great Fire of London.





# 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 – Monday, 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 – Monday, 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 & Kindergarten

**Anya & Evie**

Reception

**Elizabeth-Rose**

**George**

Year 1

**Millie**

**Jesse**

Year 2

**Annabel**

**Florence**



VINEHALL BIRTHDAYS

# Happy Birthday

**PREP-PREP**

PERSIE & WINNIE

**PREP**

ARLETA D, PERSEPHONE L, ISLA B,  
ALARA K & ALEXANDRA C





Vinehall  
A REPTON SCHOOL

# OCTOBER *Half-term* HOLIDAY CLUB



▶ **Limited Spaces Available** ▶

**24TH - 28TH**

October

**AGES**

Mini Vines: 2-3 yrs old  
Kindergarten- Year 4

**ACTIVITIES**

Woodland Adventures

Arts & Crafts

Tennis & outside sports  
and much much more...

Start at  
**8.30AM**

Finish at  
**3.30PM**

[Click Here to Book](#)