

MAY 2023

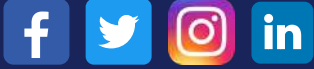
ISSUE 34

# VINELINES

YOUR WEEKLY VINEHALL NEWSLETTER



Vinehall  
A REPTON SCHOOL





# MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

**We Are Vinehall; we are ambitious.**

I sense we are close to finding the precise balance between ambition, collaboration and respect.

Ambition is often seen as a competitive quality, but it doesn't have to be. It is possible to be ambitious without pushing others aside and this is a quality we hope to develop in every Vinehall child.

Likewise, we are incredibly ambitious as a school and the celebrations of last Friday were very much intended to remind our entire community of our onwards and upwards vision for Vinehall. Thank you to so many of you for joining us for such a wonderful Vinehall day.

"Ambition is enthusiasm with a purpose" – Frank Tyger



**Vinehall**  
A REPTON SCHOOL



*Jeff Davis*

# CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK



## MONDAY 15 MAY

**Year 5 Drama Workshop with Rajere Williams, Granville**  
**Year 4 Mathematics Competition at Somerhill**

## TUESDAY 16 MAY

**Year 3 Trip to Barbican Museum, Lewes**  
**Year 2 to Pizza Express**  
**Year 3-6 Swimming Gala at Dulwich**

## WEDNESDAY 17 MAY

**Pre-Prep Bug Hunt for Prospective Families**  
**Boys' and Girls' Cricket v Claremont**

## THURSDAY 18 MAY

**ELG Meetings for Reception Parents**  
**Girls' Cricket v Claremont**  
**Boys' Cricket v St Andrew's**

## FRIDAY 19 MAY

**Open Day**  
**Year 4 Outdoor Learning Day**  
**2.30pm Reception Aquarian Show**

## SATURDAY 20 MAY

**Family Golf and Tennis Day**

## SUNDAY 21 MAY

**Boarders trip to Drusilla's**





# WE ARE VINEHALL DAY





# WE ARE VINEHALL DAY



Friday was definitely a day to remember, and the children were buzzing with excitement. First they enjoyed a delicious Coronation lunch party with lots of festive food whilst wearing the t-shirts that they had all been given, with the new pals on the front and #WeAreVinehall on the back. The Wise Up challenge also enlightened the children's day and possibly made them even wiser. They all had wonderful fun exploring the different assets of each challenge and learnt how to work together as a team. There were many different activities and exciting challenges. Some were difficult in many areas and some the children breezed through. There was one challenge called The Bomb. Many children found that specific one extremely difficult. You had to pull the ropes tied around the "bomb" and carry a ball balanced on top of it and move it all the way to the hoop. Children tried a handful of different ways, but they all succeeded in the end.

The pupils also competed in "The Skis" which were where the team had to split in two and take a set of skis each and make their way to the finish line; but there was a catch. Instead of racing against each other, they had to stick together, be one as a team. The children didn't understand that at first, but they soon understood and made it across the finish line together.

The whole school got really involved in the Wise Up challenge and worked together, even with the teachers who were team captains. The teachers helped the children and really encouraged them, as well as writing down their scores at the end; this was probably the hardest challenge of all because the pupils had to give themselves the score. It was for teamwork, encouragement and strategy. The children really embraced the fact that they couldn't just give themselves all top marks.



Along with the Wise Up challenge we also hosted a house tug of war, in which the children really showed their inner competitiveness. The houses that won were delighted and, though there was disappointment, the children were all happy for each other. The day ended with a Year 8 v Teachers tug of war, which the Year 8s won. Their happiness was definitely not shared with the teachers who will some day get their revenge. But all ended on a happy note with the children heading home full of delight.

Elizabeth O'S, Year 8





# WE ARE VINEHALL DAY



We were delighted to welcome Dan Lewis, Chair of Governors, who thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many parents and pupils and watching the festivities. We are enormously grateful to Wendy Owens, departing Director of Marketing and Admissions, who planned the occasion and realised it so beautifully; to all our staff for supporting the children through such an exciting range of team-building activities with enthusiasm and a great sense of fun; and to Gemma and the Accent Catering team for providing such a delicious Coronation tea.

You can see by the children's faces that an action-packed, hilarious and memorable day was had by all. Congratulations to the winning pupils who showed such courage, resilience, collaboration, confidence, kindness and respect. We are so proud that ... 'WE ARE VINEHALL!'



# WE ARE VINEHALL – PRE-PREP



"Last Friday the sun finally came out to shine on us as we all had the most wonderful afternoon celebrating "We Are Vinehall!" The fun started at the end of the morning, when we came together for an assembly to find out about the challenge which lay ahead; who had stolen the pie?! The children were enthralled by the video story they watched and could not wait to start their investigations!

First, however, was the important business of celebrating the King's Coronation Picnic Lunch, and the children sat in their team groups to get into the spirit of what was to come! The children had been pre-grouped into mixed teams of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 for their "Mission Possible" challenge and, after a delicious lunch at trestle tables outside, their first task was to give themselves a suitable team name. Then the fun began!

The children enjoyed an action-packed afternoon of over 30 exciting team-building activities which required collaboration, teamwork, resilience and determination. The challenges were far from easy; our first one involved using only two long ski sticks to move the entire team from one area (the avalanche!) to another (safety!) and we took over half an hour to complete this while other teams were effortlessly racing through numerous challenges! It turned out, that we had simply got the most difficult one over first. All the children were simply amazing, and every team was awarded a medal for displaying our Vinehall values -resilience, collaboration, reflection, curiosity and courage. There were also some individual medals awarded to Evie E, Vivi L, Jacob E, Florence B, Barnaby P, Percy A, Henry SC, Millie M, Percie L and Albert P for showing great teamwork and leadership qualities.

The children completing Mission Possible on the field were not the only ones engaged in a challenge, because back in the Nursery and Kindergarten the children were also busy, first cooking and then partaking in fun team games and challenges out in their garden area. The children worked together, just like Billy Bee, before sharing their delicious scones with their parents for the perfect conclusion of an afternoon cream tea!

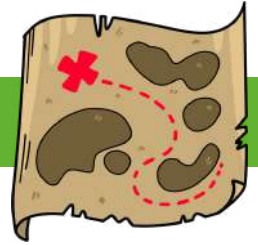
**Nicky Whittaker**





# LITTLE VINES NURSERY

## NURSERY



Ahoy there mateys!

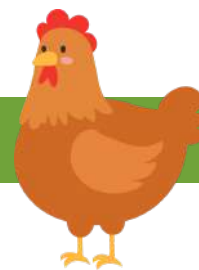
If you had gone down to the Nursery on Thursday, what a big surprise you would have had! There were no children to be found, only pirates, mermaids, crabs and sharks.

Giving children the opportunity to use their imagination encourages creativity and communication skills. We have created treasure maps and climbed aboard the pirate ship to sail to deserted islands and find where the 'x' marked the hidden treasure. The children were delighted to find the best treasure ever - chocolate!

The learning environment was set up to give the children opportunities to explore which items sink or float, as well as sharing pirate stories and rhymes and ending with a pirate jig, such fun!





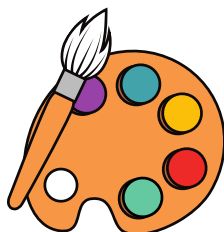


## Kindergarten



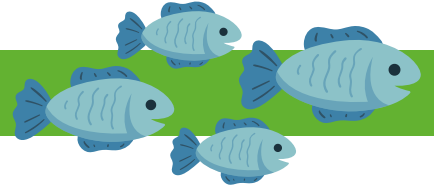
This week, we have immersed ourselves in 'Rosie's walk', using the story to discuss positional language. We have climbed under, over and around various obstacles in our obstacle course and used this language in our small world play.

We particularly enjoyed studying shades of light and dark when creating beautiful paintings of the story.





# PRE-PREP



## RECEPTION



Reception have been using their narrative skills this week to create their own story based on our book 'The Sea-Saw' by Tom Percival. The children all brought in a special cuddly toy that we used to inspire our writing. Their cuddly friends went on adventures around the sea.

We had fishy themed maths in class this week with our numicon fishing pond to build our fluency with number bonds. Then the children set out to feed the sea creatures for dinner, checking for odd and even numbers.

Next week we have our Aquarium show to parents, so the children were encouraged to think of the animals they would like to talk about and what we could create for each one. We are looking forward to sharing these next week!





# PRE-PREP



## YEAR 1

It was a busy week in Year 1! The children handled 'precious' objects that could be found in Jewish homes and worked together answering questions of 'who, what, where, when and why?'

We learnt about William Morris, a famous English textile designer, and looked carefully at his 'Strawberry Thief' design. The children practised his techniques and then carefully drew them onto a foam square producing a 'stamp' in preparation for printing next week.

Finally, the children worked collaboratively giving their United Kingdom posters the finishing touches.

Well done Year 1 on such a productive week!







## YEAR 2



Year 2 have been superstars in Maths this week. They have made fraction strips and used counters to find  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{2}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of shapes and amounts and the children quickly spotted that  $\frac{2}{4}$  is equivalent to  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; they have all been reflective and curious this week, just like Ollie Owl and Cassie Cat.

In English we were story detectives, using the story 'Gorilla' to find examples of adverbs, conjunctions, repetition, exclamations and expanded noun phrases. We were then inspired to plan and write our own version of the story, which the children did with great enthusiasm.





# PREP ACADEMIC – YEAR 3



## ROOT, SHOOT, LEAF OR FRUIT?



As part of their topic on Plants this term, 3E had fun classifying the parts of plants that we eat.

Thank you to Chef Gemma for sourcing all the food plants.

Year 3 can now spell 'mangetout' by splitting it up into 'man get out!' This is thanks to one of Year 5 who, two years ago, pointed this out to me when she was in my class!

Our bean seedlings continue to grow and grow and grow ... Rachel Borrowes has run out of tall canes!





## PREP: EVENTS AND TRIPS



### FIVES EXPLORE THE DELIGHTS OF SCOTNEY CASTLE



Last Thursday, Year 5 set off to Scotney Castle to explore the house and old castle ruins, set in gorgeous grounds ablaze with colourful azaleas and rhododendrons. This was a joint English/Art trip which involved sketching the ruins of Scotney Castle and gathering inspiration for our creative writing (connected with our Fairy Tales unit of work).

We found out about the concept of “the picturesque” from Tracey Konyu, who explained that Scotney House (which was built around 1837) was designed to showcase the view of the ancient castle ruins below. Working ‘en plein air’, we enjoyed a balmy summer’s afternoon sketching at a stunning location and capturing some vistas of Scotney Castle. Some sensitive drawings were produced of a beautiful setting.

In our English lessons since our trip, we have been reflecting on and writing up accounts of our visit. Other highlights of our trip included exploring the inside of Scotney House, admiring the artwork in (and views from) Betty Hussey’s bedroom and bathroom, marvelling at the grandeur of all the rooms in the house, peeping into the 1950s-style kitchen (as it would have been in Betty’s day) and savouring some delicious ice creams at the end of the day!

Emily Platt and Tracey Konyu





## PREP: EVENTS AND TRIPS

### YEAR 5 TRIP ART & ENGLISH TRIP TO SCOTNEY CASTLE



Masa M



Yuzu M

Last week, we went on a trip to Scotney Castle with Mrs Platt and Mrs Konyu because we are learning about the picturesque in art and fairy tales in English. When we first arrived at Scotney, we went to an education room to drop our stuff and plan what we were going to do first.

We decided to go and explore the Castle and the House. The house was fascinating because it was full of old and interesting antiques. And there were a couple of picturesque viewpoints from inside the old but beautiful house. There were also lots of cat pictures, antiques and more because of the last owner's wife (Betty Hussey).

The first owner of Scotney Castle was Lambert de Scoteni in 1137. In 1778 the Hussey family bought Scotney and in 1830 Edward Hussey called in architect Anthony Salvin to create a new Victorian mansion at the top of the hill, looking out across the valley towards the riverside ruins. Using the 14th century moated castle as the focal point, Edward Hussey planned the garden and the landscape in the 1830s in the picturesque style.

I really enjoyed this trip because of all the sketching, the interesting antiques, the beautiful Castle, the view, the house and the ice cream we got at the end as a reward for getting three positive comments from other people at the Castle. I would highly recommend this trip to Scotney Castle.

Masa M



Amelia A





The sports department are becoming weather bores! It seems to be the only thing we can talk about. Is it raining? What does the forecast say? The boys' cricket sides fell victim to the torrential rain which fell over the weekend, meaning the wickets could not be prepared sufficiently for this week's fixtures. Fingers crossed the sun comes out and we can play next week.

The girls were a little luckier, with both the seniors and U11 games being moved to the Astro at Vinehall and Marlborough House. Combining 1st & 2nds and 2nds & 3rds to make two teams, both sides enjoyed competitive matches. The U10s had far more luck, travelling to Sutton Valence for their annual U10 tournament. I believe the sun was out for the majority of the day and, although they did not return with the trophy, they enjoyed a great day of cricket.

The U8/9 girls travelled to Sacred Heart for a fun afternoon of pairs cricket and the boys hosted Skippers Hill for two fun games, with both the Sunken Fence and Junior Woods pitches looking splendid in the sunshine.

By the time this piece is published the Athletics team will have competed at Dulwich in the first athletics meeting of the term. Next week will be as busy as ever with the swimmers taking part in a gala on Tuesday and block fixtures against Claremont on Wednesday.





# UPCOMING EVENTS



**Little Vines Nursery invites  
you on a bug hunt!**

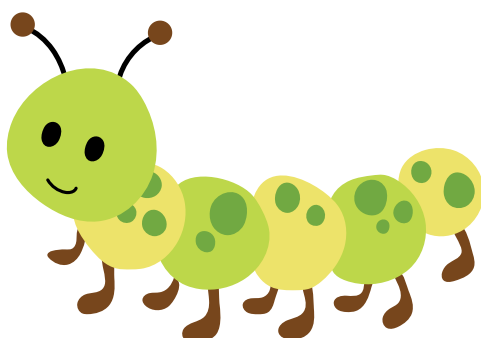
Come and explore our beautiful grounds  
and experience the wonders of going on a  
Bug Hunt!

**On Wednesday 17th May – 10 am to 11.30 am**

Wellies and suitable outdoor clothing is  
advised.  
Refreshments provided.

The children in Little Vines Nursery will be pulling on their wellies to go on a bug hunt through the grounds on Wednesday 17th May from 10.00–11.30am.

The event is also open to all children from six months to four years from outside the school. So if you know of any friends or family who would like to join us – please spread the word and invite them to book a free place at this link:  
<https://www.trybooking.co.uk/CHLN!>





## CELEBRATIONS

# Happy Birthday

Blake AH PN

Percy A Y2

Margot C Y5

Kingsley N Y7

Alfie C Y8

Rafe P Y8



Pre-Prep

## STARS OF THE WEEK

### Nursery

Ella  
Albert  
Annabelle

### Kindergarten

Immy  
Margaux

### Reception

Louis  
George

### Year 1

Jesse  
Persie

### Year 2

Annabel  
Florence

