

JUNE 2023

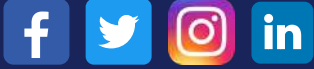
ISSUE 37

# VINELINES

YOUR WEEKLY VINEHALL NEWSLETTER



Vinehall  
A REPTON SCHOOL





# MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

Eight days away ... a riddle for you:

I'm the highlight of summer, a joyful affair,  
Where people gather, with laughter and flair.  
Colourful stalls and games, prizes to be won,  
Children's laughter echoes, under the warm sun.

I'm filled with sweet treats, chocolate and cake,  
Enticing aromas, tempting all who partake.  
Balloons soar high, floating in the breeze,  
Dogs on show - do sit for me, please.

Guess who am I, this summertime delight?  
A festival of fun, that shines so bright!  
Answer with glee, if you've got it right,  
A riddle about summer fetes, pure delight!

The FoV Summer Fete - a celebration of summer - see you all on the 17th!



*Jeff Davis*

## Message from Daniel Lewis, Chair of Governors:

We are delighted to announce that Stephen Vakil has joined our Governing Body.

Stephen has over thirty years of experience in wealth management at senior board level. He has a daughter in Year 2 and is passionate about the standard of education our children receive.

Stephen will be joining the Finance and General Purposes Committee and we very much look forward to working with him and benefiting from his extensive professional expertise.



**Vinehall**  
A REPTON SCHOOL

# CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK



## MONDAY 12 JUNE

Junior County Athletics  
Year 8 Punting in Cambridge and Staying at Repton

## TUESDAY 13 JUNE

Beach Day for Reception, Year 1 and 2  
Year 8 Alton Towers and Staying at Repton

## WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE

Year 2 Summer Concert  
Junior Kangaroo Mathematics Challenge  
Girls' Cricket v Bede's  
Boys' Cricket v Battle Abbey

## THURSDAY 15 JUNE

Nursery Summer Walk  
Years 6&7 Spanish Film Event  
Year 8 to Go Ape  
Mixed Cricket v Marlborough House

## FRIDAY 16 JUNE

Senior County Athletics Trials

## SATURDAY 17 JUNE

FOV Summer Fete, 12.00–4.00pm

## SUNDAY 18 JUNE

Boarders' Croquet and Tea



**A21 Road Safety Notice**

**Please always TURN LEFT when you leave the school.**



# FORTHCOMING EVENTS



**SOCCER  
SCHOOLS**

**BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION**  
**SOCCER  
SCHOOLS**

**BOOK ONLINE NOW**

**HOLIDAY FOOTBALL COURSES FOR  
ANYONE AGED 5-13. ALL ABILITIES  
WELCOME.**



## Robertsbridge

27-28 July, 10-11 Aug, 24-25  
Aug. 9.45am-3pm  
£28 (1 day) // £50 (2 days)



Vinehall School,  
Robertsbridge, East Sussex,  
TN32 5JL.

Scan here to book, click here or  
visit:

[albioninthecommunity.org.uk](http://albioninthecommunity.org.uk)

Albion in the Community, American Express Community Foundation, Village Way, Brighton BN1 9BL Tel: 01273 878265.

Company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (No. 5122343). Registered charity in England and Wales (No. 1110454).



The Soccer School is open  
to all children aged 5-13.  
Places are limited and  
early booking is advised.



Raffle Tickets will  
be on sale on the  
school drive at  
pick-up time all  
next week. Please  
do support our  
amazing FOV.



# Summer Fete

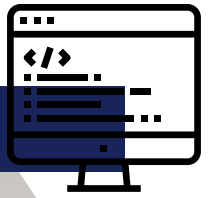
**Saturday 17th June**

**Lots of fun  
for all the  
family!**





# FOCUS OF THE WEEK – HUMANITIES



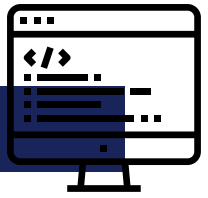
Is prison a place for punishment or rehabilitation? Should everyone become vegetarian? Does it matter if humans cause a sixth mass extinction? These are just a few of the questions that the Year 8s have chosen to answer for their ISEB Project Qualification.

A few years ago, we made the decision to no longer follow the Common Entrance syllabuses for History and Geography. We have continued to teach both subjects in Years 7 and 8, of course, but we have replaced CE with our own thematic curriculum. There were a number of reasons for making this choice. From our point of view, the Common Entrance syllabuses were too narrow in their scope and the exams too restrictive. In addition, we wanted to reduce the number of exams the pupils sat at the end of Year 8 in order to make CE week more manageable and less stressful.

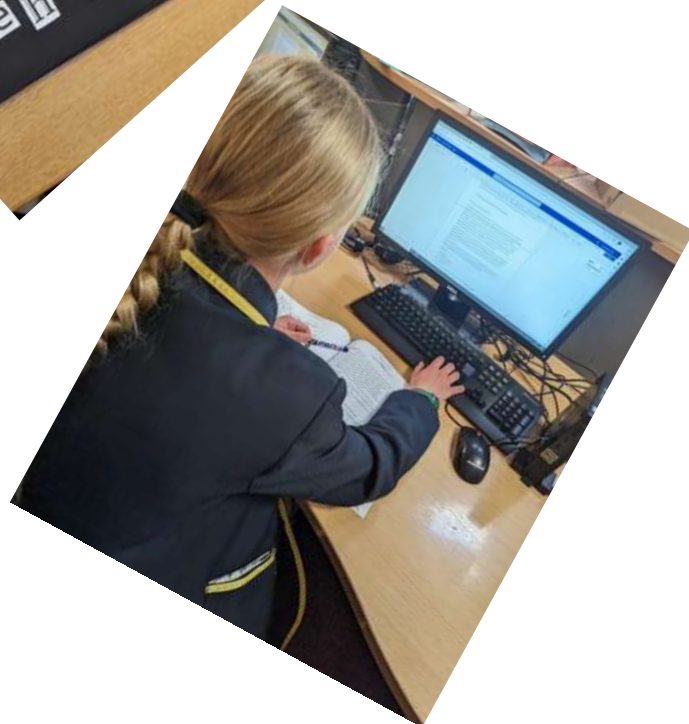
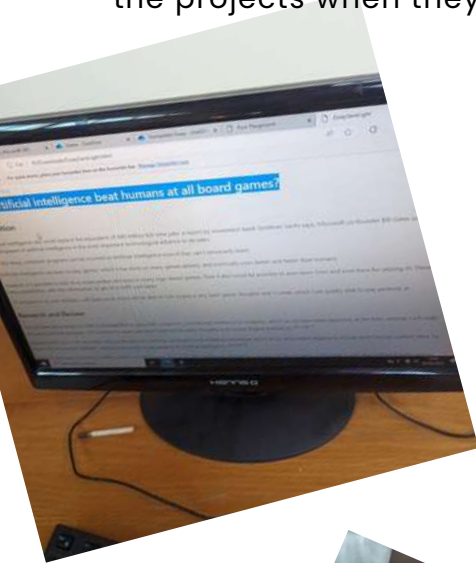
In their final term, rather than preparing for History and Geography papers, the Year 8s have completed the ISEB Project Qualification. This new qualification requires the children to come up with their own research question and then answer that question, developing their research skills, their critical thinking skills and their ability to work independently. Completing the ISEB Project Qualification means that Vinehall pupils join their senior schools with a broader skillset than they would if they only sat exams at the end of Year 8. The children are not only free to choose their own research question, they are also able to choose the way in which they present their findings. This year, we have seen a diverse range of projects including scrapbooks, display boards, podcasts and essays.



# FOCUS OF THE WEEK – HUMANITIES



The range of questions the children come up with is impressive and inspiring. Alfie C posed the question 'Can artificial intelligence beat humans at all board games?' and, to help him answer the question, he coded in both Python and JavaScript a machine learning algorithm for playing noughts and crosses. Meanwhile, Elsie B has been researching different prison systems and putting together a scrapbook that investigates whether prisons should focus more on rehabilitation or punishment. Seb B has completed a display board that asks how long the Earth would take to recover if humans went extinct, and Patrick L has been busy writing an essay that examines the significance of inequality and its unavoidability in human societies. I am very much looking forward to reading all of the projects when they are completed!





# WORLD OCEAN DAY

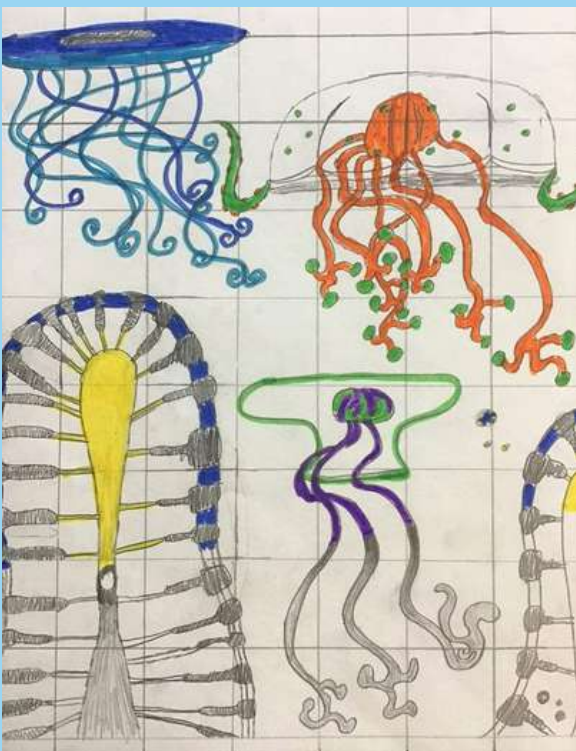


## OCEAN IS FAMILY



We celebrated World Ocean Day on Thursday, watching part of a David Attenborough documentary in Form Time in the Theatre and taking part in some live lessons about marine conservation, amongst other things. 6PW got a 'shout-out' for their perfect score on the whale-naming activity and Honor H's question was read in the live lesson - very exciting!

Tracey Konyu's Year 5 artists have also recently focused on Haeckel's Jellyfish and radiolarians.





# MUSIC



The Prep School children were transfixed during this morning's hymn practice when our wonderful violin teacher, Ben Wragg, took them all on a magical journey to Romania as he performed Enescu's 'The Little Fiddler'.

The children listened intently and then shared the occasion by singing their favourite hymn, 'I The Lord of Sea and Sky'. Ben will be playing for the Pre- Prep children in their assembly on Friday 16th June.



On the last day before half term, the music department was delighted to welcome parents and friends to the Tea Time Concert. This very informal occasion allows our young musicians at all levels of experience an opportunity to perform to an audience and they did us very proud.





## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF PRE-PREP

There has been much to celebrate in Pre-Prep this week as all the children, teachers and support staff returned from the half term holiday relaxed and refreshed. We were absolutely delighted to learn that Little Vines Nursery has been awarded the "Top 20 Day Nurseries" accolade for the third consecutive year. We are so proud of our amazing Nursery team for winning this award; out of 2264 nurseries across Sussex, Surrey, Kent, Hampshire and Berkshire, Little Vines has been ranked in the top twenty. We send huge congratulations to Sarah Wolford and her team for the outstanding quality of care and education they provide, which enables all the children to flourish and thrive.

Kindergarten had a fantastic first outing this week when they went to the Rare Breeds Farm at Appledore as part of their topic about farms. It is always a big moment when a class goes out for the first time on a trip together, and I was thrilled to hear of how brilliant all the Kindergarten children were, and what a lovely day both the children and the staff had. A big thank you to Maddie Parsk and Catherine Garlick for organising the visit, and to Sanchia Wells for supporting the class so beautifully. Huge thanks also to Amanda Winn and Karen Walker for driving the minibuses and, along with Clare Ruddle, for looking after the children so well during the whole day. All of the children went to sleep on the return journey to school – surely the sign of a day well spent!

It has been so lovely to welcome Cathy Fuggle to the Vinehall Family this week; she has fitted in so well it feels as if she has always been here! The Reception children are clearly very settled and happy, which must be a relief to Louisa Bennett as she finally has a few weeks to put her feet up ahead of the arrival of Baby Bennett.

Finally, you will have noticed a few changes outside Pre-Prep, and this is due to the hard work and dedication of Lynn Datchler and Kath Archibald. Keen to support the children in better enjoying the outside area, they hatched a plan and started brightening it up. The children have enjoyed having a hand in planting and designing a sensory garden, and we are hoping to transform this space in the weeks and months to come.

*Nicky Whitaker*



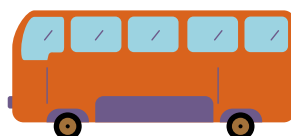


## NURSERY



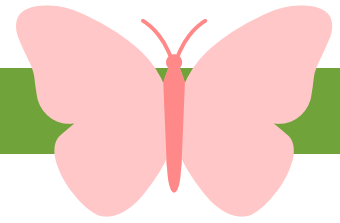
Life's a journey but how do we get from A to B?

That was one of the key questions the Little Vines children were asked this week. We learnt about forms of transport which had wheels and the children had the opportunity to design and construct a variety of vehicles using recycled materials. They also used the interactive whiteboard to support their designs and learnt about drawing different shapes to connect their forms of transport together.





# LITTLE VINES NURSERY



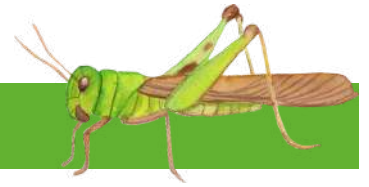
## Kindergarten

This week the kindergarten class thoroughly enjoyed their first school visit to The Rare Breeds Centre. We loved handling a variety of different animals and going on a tractor ride. A real highlight was witnessing first hand the lifecycle of chickens, ducks and butterflies. It was fascinating to walk through the butterfly tunnel and spot a range of different butterflies and look at their intricately patterned wings. One of the pleasures of the visit was the impeccable behaviour of the children which was noted by other visitors.



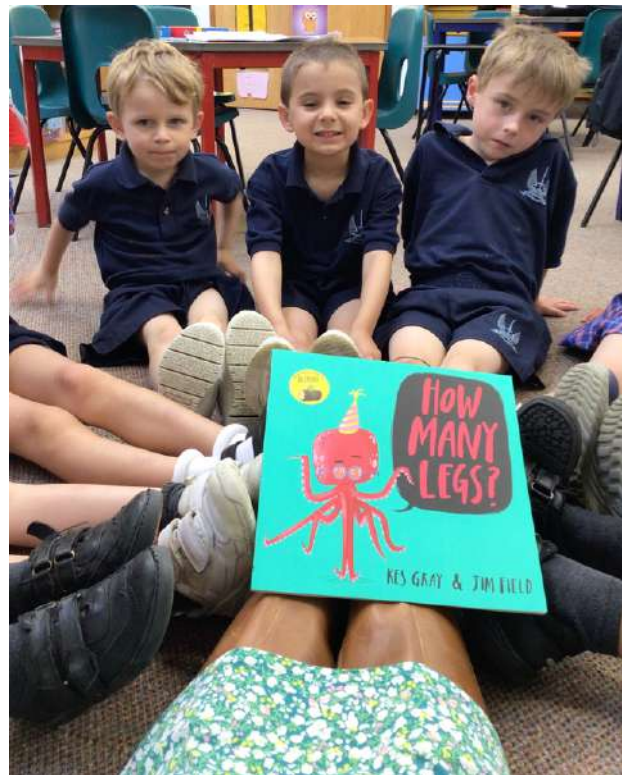


# PRE-PREP



## RECEPTION

We have had a wonderful week learning our number names and exploring our beautiful grounds to find minibeasts and research facts on these fascinating creatures. The children have linked their maths work on number names to their writing and reading tasks about these brilliant bugs. They have had a super first week back. Well done Reception!







## YEAR 1

Year 1 were eager to start their new topic of 'Outdoor Adventure - A Wonderful World' after returning from their half term holiday.

We began the week by taking advantage of the beautiful sunshine and discovering the physical and human features at Vinehall. The children looked at different locations and made a map and key. We then followed a map through the Bluebell Woods and to the pond only to discover the Bog Baby! Stay tuned for all the amazing adventures we will have with him over the next few weeks!







## YEAR 2

We have also been exploring our local environment in our Learning Journey and went on a nature walk to see which plants we could find. The children then planted bean seeds to observe what happens when they germinate.



We were treated to a Little Red Riding Hood drama workshop this week, linked to the twisted fairytale we have been reading. The children loved being on stage and were great at miming the story. They had to think about how to move and howl like a wolf and created a tableau of the spooky forest as Little Red walked through it.





# PREP ACADEMIC



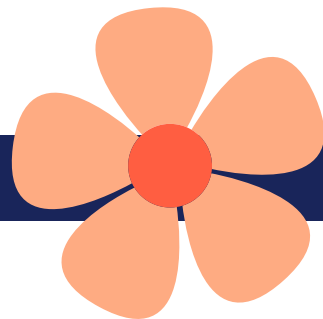
## THE BIG DE BEER BOOK LOOK

Just before half term we had a lovely morning with lots of parents visiting the De Beer block to see all the work their children has been doing. It is always a pleasure to have visitors down here. Thank you for coming!





# PREP ACADEMIC – YEAR 3



## FLOWER POWER

Year 3 were botanical illustrators in Science this week. They used water colours and painted on cartridge paper – thanks, Miss E for showing them how 'less is more' when using water colours! Mrs E was impressed with their detailed drawings and paintings. Finally, they worked in pairs to make models of a flower using card, plasticine and cotton buds to show the style, stigma and stamens.

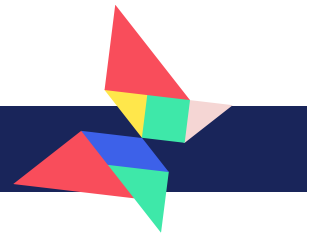


## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

In our RS lessons in Year 3 the children are reading stories from the New Testament. Having learnt about some of the people Jesus met during his life, they acted out the story of Zacchaeus, the tax collector. Zacchaeus (aka Ollie), a short and greedy tax collector, took too much money from the people (3E) of Jericho (Vinehall). Jesus (aka Caspar) visited Jericho and Zacchaeus climbed a tree! Zacchaeus then realised the error of his ways back at his house (the zipwire) before becoming 'a changed man'. Well done for some great improvising, 3E!







## MATHEMATICS

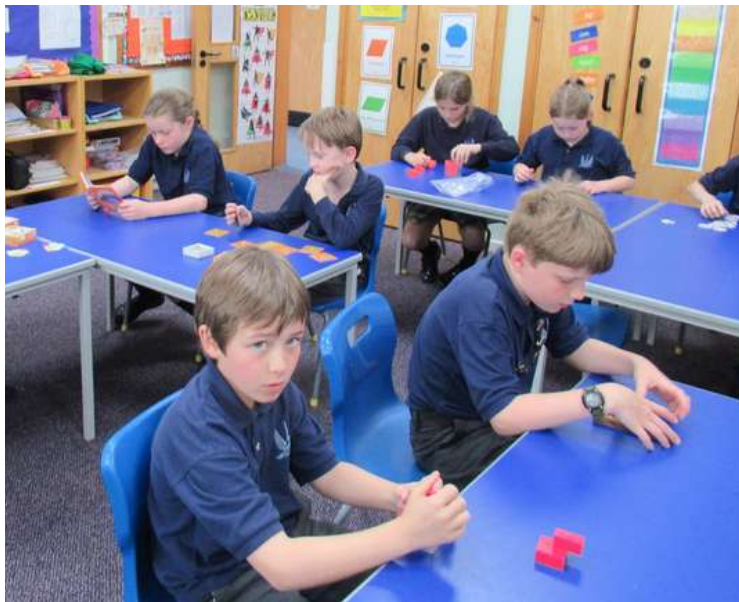
3E have been busy in their Maths lessons this week, improving their skills at telling the time and converting pounds and pence. In Form Time they explored tangrams, firstly making a square and then a watering can!





## MATHS PUZZLES

Ms Tripp came to Y4 with a lovely big box of hands on puzzles. Even Mrs Barrett got hooked!





# PREP ACADEMIC – YEAR 5



## YEAR 5 GO BANANAS!

Year 5 have been learning about Fairtrade products. Today they cooked banana bread using Fairtrade bananas. The children were virtually totally independent working together in their threes. The bread took longer to cook than expected so they took it home. I hope they shared!





## PREP ACADEMIC – YEAR 7

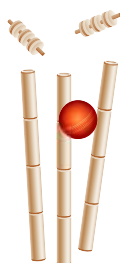
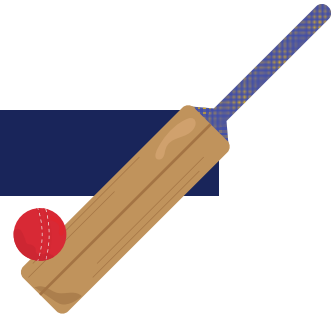


While our Year 8s beavered away in their exams on Wednesday morning, the Saxton Year 7s took charge of their House Meeting. They organised games for us to play outside – a great way to begin the day in the sunny grounds. Thanks, Year 7!





# SPORT



With the sun shining and the fields looking fabulous, the cricket season continued at full pace, with six teams in action on Wednesday. The U11A & B girls played some great cricket at Skipper's Hill and the U12 Girls' team excelled at the Dulwich Cricket Tournament. The 1st XI boys travelled to Horsmonden CC to play Beechwood. In a shortened match the 1sts put in a good display, winning comfortably. The U11s continued their good season against Saint Ronan's at home. The As were very excited to play their first home match on the main field.

Next week is a busy one, with the athletics teams taking part in the Sussex Championships on Monday and Friday. There are also a number of cricket fixtures on Wednesday, with the U8/9 boys and girls combining to take on Marlborough House at home on Thursday.

Please do check the school sports website for fixtures, match reports and venue information.

## U12 Cricket Tournament



The girls should be proud of what they achieved on Wednesday; so much progress was made throughout the tournament. They won the first two matches in their group, against Dulwich and Claremont. The Claremont game was very close, coming down to the final over. The final match of the group was a loss against a clinical Ashford Senior team, who went on to win the tournament. Finishing 2nd in our group meant we went on to play Sutton Valence in the final of the plate. The girls saved their best game to last. There was strong fielding, good bowling, catches and backing up to take a convincing win and become winners of the plate and finish 3rd overall!



## CELEBRATIONS

# Happy Birthday

Rupert F – Year 3

Rosie D – Year 8

Freja C – Kindergarten

Millie M – Year 1

Elisa CA – Year 8



**Pre-Prep** ★★

## STARS OF THE WEEK

### Nursery

**Maeva**

### Kindergarten

**Winnie**

### Reception

**Louis**  
**Ezra**

### Year 1

**Adeline**

### Year 2

**William**

