

JUNE 2023

ISSUE 38

# VINELINES

YOUR WEEKLY VINEHALL NEWSLETTER



Vinehall  
A REPTON SCHOOL





# MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

The renowned American sports commentator, Al Bernstein, once said that 'Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June'. And what a June it has been so far! Even its name is relevant to our Vinehall pupils, derived from Juno, the goddess of youth, and our wonderful young people have been enjoying this incredible weather to the full. It has been delightful to see our beautiful grounds filled with activity, joy and the sound of children's laughter.

As well as the preparations for next week's Sports Days, cricket matches and PE lessons, breaktimes have involved old fashioned rope skipping and French elastic, ball games, Family It and Around the World table tennis tournaments. The long evenings have seen the boarders whizzing around the pathways on their bikes, sliding down a sheet of soapy plastic to screams of excitement or just enjoying a quiet time chatting with the Gappers in the fading sun.

We are still reeling from the numerous gold medal successes at the Junior County Athletics meeting this week, where our team punched so far above their weight.

'It was June and the world smelled of roses.'

I am very much looking forward to the buzz of a sunny fete tomorrow and to seeing the whole community enjoying the June sunshine together.



*Jeff Davis*



# CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK



## MONDAY 19 JUNE

EAL Trip

Boys' Tennis v Marlborough House

## TUESDAY 20 JUNE

'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' Tea Party for Nursery Families

'Break the Rules Day in the Prep School.

French Pen Pal Visit to Brighton

Year 8 Go Karting and 'Clip N Climb'

## WEDNESDAY 21 JUNE

Girls' Cricket v St Andrew's

Boys' Cricket v Skippers Hill

## THURSDAY 22 JUNE

Year 7 'Twelfth Night' Workshop and Matinee at Claremont

Mixed Cricket v The Mead

Year 8 Go Karting and 'Clip N Climb'

5.20pm LAMDA Parent/Children Talk with Ellie Ward – Years 2–7

## FRIDAY 23 JUNE

Pre-Prep Sports Day

Year 8 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at the Globe.

## SATURDAY 24 JUNE

Sports Day

## SUNDAY 25 JUNE

Boarders' Exeat



**A21 Road Safety Notice**

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



## FOCUS OF THE WEEK – ENGLISH



### BRAVING THE BEAST

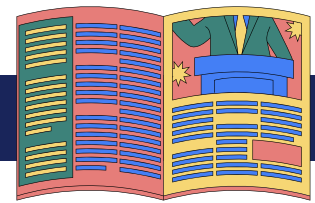
Thinking back over the events of this term, there have been several English departmental successes which stick in the mind. Year 3's performance of "Zog" by Julia Donaldson (a charmingly quirky, feminist fairy tale) together with an extract from "The Iron Man" by Ted Hughes was a great hit on stage two weeks ago.

Year 3 gave two performances, one to Pre-Prep and one in Friday's Assembly to the Prep School and parents. Words and actions were delivered with wit, charm and an ever-present awareness of rhyme and rhythm. The whole class worked together to produce a seamless presentation of the highest calibre. Mrs E was very pleased with their performances, and they clearly enjoyed themselves and braved their stage fright very well. A particular highlight was when Coralie shed her tutu and threw it high into the air so that it landed, rather dramatically, on Albert's head, causing much hilarity in the audience.





## FOCUS OF THE WEEK – ENGLISH



Year 8s have been braving another kind of beast this term (metaphorically speaking) in the form of their Common Entrance exams. They are the first group of Year 8s to sit the updated CE exam and so have been guinea pigs for the new paper which is challenging, particularly in terms of the very tight time pressure on both papers (Reading Comprehension and Writing). Pupils will be awaiting their results with bated breath ...

In the meantime, I am delighted to report that Poetry by Heart (the national organisation which holds an annual poetry performance competition in June) has awarded Isla M (Year 7) "Best in County" for her video recordings of two poems ("Dulce et Decorum Est" by Wilfred Owen and "Complaints of the Poor" by Robert Southey). Isla practised these poems diligently with the support of her Year 7 class as the audience, and I am really pleased that she managed to do so well in the 'Classic' category of this competition.

Finally, we are delighted to report that four of our senior pupils (Ethan E, Chloe F, Tymofii L and Patrick L) have achieved great success in the prestigious Mind's Eye Prep Magazine competition this month. The King's School, Canterbury, publish this magazine every year, and competition to have articles published is fierce. Every year, pupils are given free- rein to choose their own topic, which generates a wide and fascinating variety of pieces.



Topics in the finalists' articles this year ranged from teaching financial skills in school, bear bile farming, abandoned pets and, last but not least, Tymofii's article – his first-hand account of the week when he was forced to flee Ukraine. I was lucky enough to be in Debbie Gearey's classroom the day that Tymofii read this account to his classmates. It is an understatement to say that we were all moved by his article and I am very pleased that the editor selected it as the first article in the magazine.

I must admit that Debbie Gearey and I find it a daunting job selecting just a dozen pieces to send to the editor of the magazine; the quality of the articles seems to get higher each year.

Emily Platt, Head of English

# MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF PRE-PREP



On Wednesday afternoon, Year 2 presented their Summer Leavers' Concert to their parents in the Pre-Prep hall. This was a celebration of their musical achievements of the year, and was followed by a delicious strawberry cream tea.



During the year, the children have had the opportunity to learn both the harp, a stringed instrument and the recorder, a woodwind instrument.



*Nicky Whittaker*



# LITTLE VINES NURSERY

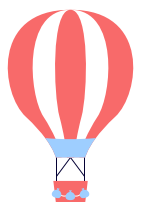
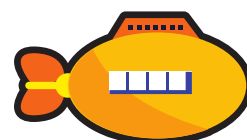
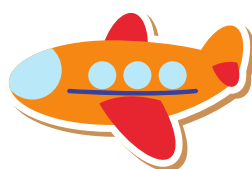


## NURSERY – LITTLE VINES ADVENTURES AROUND THE WORLD

What a fantastic week we have had learning about our world. We looked at a world map and the children brought in pictures, transport tickets and spoke about the different countries the children have visited in the world and how they got there.

They learnt that you can fly in so many different forms of transport, such as a glider as well as a helicopter. We talked about our country being an island and surrounded by sea and the children absorbed and recalled so many facts.

We then worked together to create our very own aeroplane known as 'Vineair,' who knows where we will be jetting off to next?!

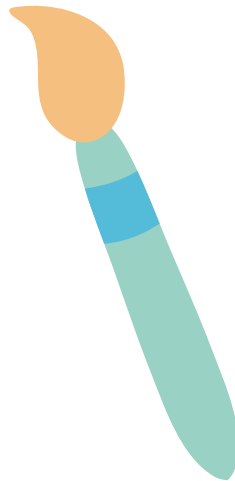




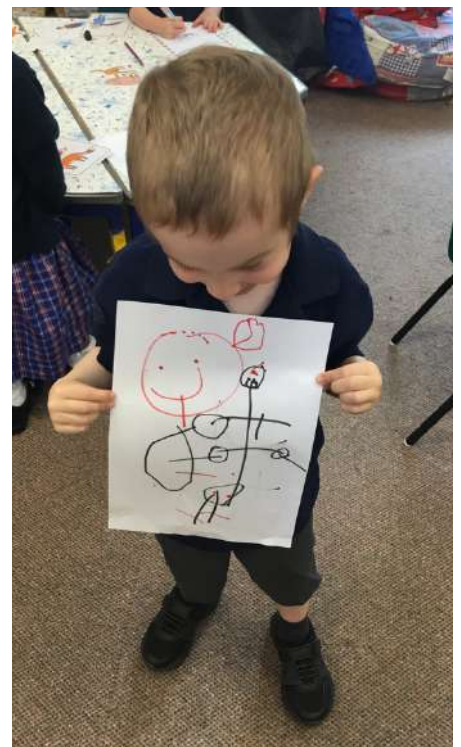


## Kindergarten

In Kindergarten we love to explore early writing and mark-making in a variety of different ways. This week the children have especially enjoyed water play and we've been writing numbers with water outside.



Our story of the week is 'The Gingerbread Man' and the children have been thinking about how the characters in the story might feel. They have produced amazing drawings and have been just like Ollie Owl with their insightful comments.





# PRE-PREP

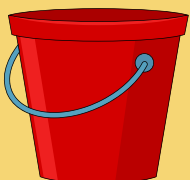
## RECEPTION



Oh we do like to be beside the seaside ! Oh we do like to be beside the sea!

The children had so much this week on our beach trip. They loved building sandcastles , creating tall towers from the pebbles, collecting shells, eating a picnic lunch and ending a wonderful day out with a delicious ice cream as we strolled along the beach front.

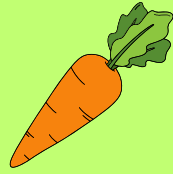
Unfortunately there were lots of jellyfish in the sea so we couldn't go into the water, but the children were fascinated by the different shapes , colours and sizes of these beautiful creatures. All in all, a very exciting and memorable day out !





# PRE-PREP

## RECEPTION



Reception have been studying Beatrix Potter stories and on Thursday they scampered over to the Chaplin Theatre to help Mr McGregor search for Peter Rabbit. The children were wonderfully creative and focused as they listened to the story and acted as Peter on his big and scary adventure to the vegetable garden.





# PRE-PREP



## YEAR 1

After finding 'Bog Baby' in the Vinehall Bog, the children brought him back to the classroom and discussed what he would need to survive in our classroom. They made him shelter and fed him water and cake crumbs just like the girls did in our focus text 'The Bog Baby'. As the week progressed, Bog Baby seemed happy enjoying extra hugs from the children.



In English, we began to think about imaginary creatures and what ours would look like if we created one. The children thought it would be wonderful for Bog Baby to have some friends so we began our project. We formed a plan thinking about what our creature would need and what type of body it would have based on the habitat from which it came. We followed our plan and used different materials to make our creatures.



Stay tuned for all the adventures they get up to with their friend, Bog Baby!





# PRE-PREP



## YEAR 2



Year 2 have have a wonderful week, with a trip to the beach and our Summer Concert. The children loved spending time playing in the sand with their friends, building structures with the pebbles and spotting different jellyfish in the sea, before finishing the day off with a delicious ice cream.



During the Summer Concert, the children sang beautifully, recited the poems clearly and with expression, and played their instruments with confidence. A particular highlight was how well they all worked together when playing the recorder and the harp. What a treat for us all!





# PREP ACADEMIC – YEAR 3



## ARCHAEOLOGY AND SCOTCH EGGS

Year 3 had a final mini 'archaeological dig' to hunt for hidden Stone Age flint tools and a bone needle before embarking on a new topic.



They used a halved scotch egg (the earth's hemispheres) to learn about the crust, mantle and core. Mrs E had put them in the freezer (by mistake), so we had to think about the 'ice age' too! Thank you to Miss Tripp for sawing through the eggs so we could continue with our learning!

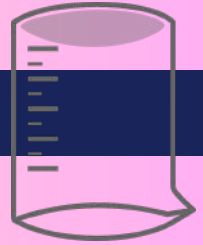


## FLOWER PRESSING

A big thank you to Rachel Borrows for joining us for Science this week, as we learnt more about flowers. We can't wait to make the pressed flowers from the De Beer garden into bookmarks!

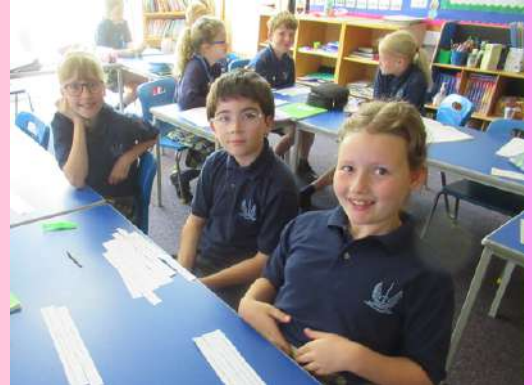
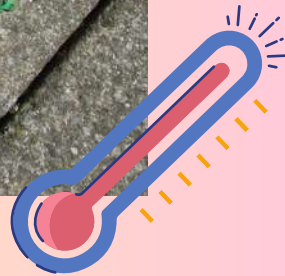


## PREP ACADEMIC – YEAR 4



Year 4 have been learning about greenhouse gases. They set up an experiment to see what happens to the temperature under the glass.

Year 4 have been working on how to use paragraphs. They tried to organise a text cut up into strips. They were good at it.



## PREP ACADEMIC – YEAR 5

### MORE ABOUT BUDDHISM

Amelia brought in a beautiful lotus flower to show us in RS this week. Thank you, Amelia!





# BOARDING



The boarders are really making the most of the good weather. On Saturday the weather was a little too good as we made our way to Eastbourne for a round of minigolf. We then took a stroll to the pier where we ordered our fish and chip lunch. It was very disappointing to find we had been given 16 chicken nuggets instead of 16 portions, but we got here in the end, and everybody had lunch while we scrambled for a little bit of shade.

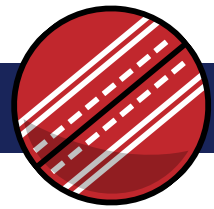
Then it was on to the Eastbourne Eye, with lovely views of the town and the sea for those that were not too terrified to look out. The highlight of the trip was the sweet shop, where one boarder remarked that they would like to live there. After negotiating down to a few pieces of rock candy we made our way home and had a lovely, relaxed evening watching the football.



On Sunday we enjoyed breakfast outside and then opened the swimming pool for those feeling energetic. On Sunday evening we had Wacky races, which involved a piggyback race, the wheelbarrow race and the tennis ball and spoon race. The winning team secured a later Saturday bedtime.

One evening we set up the slip and slide. Most of the children had a go but the boys were considerably more reckless than the girls and overshot the slide by quite some distance. After a very paranoid hour and luckily no trips to A&E required, the children had a shower and got ready for bed.





Week 9 has been as busy as the rest, with six teams in action on Wednesday and four teams playing on Thursday. That was after a group of pupils took part in the Junior Sussex athletics championships at Hurstpierpoint on Monday and, by the time you have read this article, the senior athletics team will have finished competing at Crawley in the Senior Sussex Championships.

Monday's athletics meet at Hurst proved to be hugely successful, with four individuals winning their events. Arthur P U10 Javelin; Harry M U10 Shot; Charlie C 800m and Jamie M 1500m. Huge congratulations must also go to Harvey P, Masa M, Jamie M and Charlie C who won the 4 x 100m relay. The rest of the team did brilliantly on the day and Jon Newman and Laura Percy White were delighted with the performance from the entire squad.

The 1st XI played an exciting 16 over match against Battle Abbey. Batting first, Vinehall scored 114 for 4, with Henry C scoring a very good fifty before retiring and Alex D carrying his bat in difficult conditions. In reply, Battle Abbey were able to get across the line with two balls to spare. An entertaining game which went the distance. The Colts A played well at Marlborough House and continued their unbeaten run with a good victory; and, although the Colts B team lost, Jon Newman was pleased with their bowling.

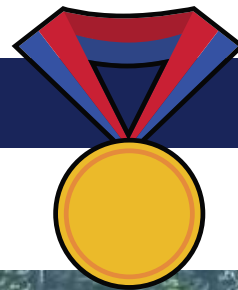
The U11AB & U10 girls travelled to Bede's for an interesting afternoon of cricket; Laura Percy-White was very pleased with the Vinehall girls' attitude on the pitch.

On Thursday the U8 & U9 boys and girls combined forces for an enjoyable afternoon of cricket at home against Marlborough House. It is wonderful to see the continued progress the children are making.





# SPORT





# 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.

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



Don't forget  
to purchase  
your raffle  
tickets.



# Summer Fete

Saturday 17th June

Lots of fun  
for all the  
family!





## CELEBRATIONS

# Happy Birthday

Isobel SM – Year 6

Seren K – Year 5

Victoria M – Reception



**Pre-Prep** ★★

## STARS OF THE WEEK

### Nursery

Harriet

### Kindergarten

Jackson

Evie

### Reception

All the Children

### Year 1

Florence

Millie

### Year 2

Ned

