



End of Term Newsletter

Friday 23rd May, 2025

Principal note

This term has been particularly busy with 'business as usual' alongside the end of year exams. Many of the pupils have made progress in their learning, in socialising with their peers and in developing greater independence. It has been encouraging to see them approach new things in class, participate in trips and events or engage in enrichment activities. New skills, friendships and greater independence have all been good outcomes in the process.

I would like to commend the Year 11 students for their incredible resilience and for showing great maturity and commitment during this exam period. They should also be proud of themselves for trekking across London to the Royal Botanic Gardens for a trip organised by the Science department. Meanwhile, we have everything crossed for them as they await their results and look forward to celebrating with them in the Summer.

There will be an additional opportunity for extra revision sessions over the half term for selected pupils. Parents have been contacted. These sessions will be delivered on the 27th and 28th May from 10am till 2pm and will be led by Ms Falinska (Maths), Ms Mohamed (English Language) and Mr Spencer (Science). I want to personally thank them for going the extra mile in supporting our students and am proud of the students who have been willing to engage.

It was good to meet some parents at our Key Stage 4 Parents' Evening this term and I look forward to meeting many more of you at our Key Stage 3 Parents' Evening on Wednesday, 16th July. There will be the opportunity to sign up for appointments after half term.

Mrs Clements, Interim Principal

Staffing

This is a reminder that Fatima Mohammed, Head of English, will be completing her final half term with us. She has been an inspiration, and her hard work has enabled the department and the students to grow from strength to strength.

We also welcome in our new SALT, Samantha Jashek, who has settled into our community, contributed to our CPD training and is working alongside our pupils to support them.

Important Dates

Monday, 2nd June Return to school
8:45am

W/C Monday, 16th June Year 9 & 10
Bikeability

W/C Monday, 23rd June Year 11 & 12
Bikeability

W/C Monday, 30th June Year 7 & 8
Bikeability

Wednesday, 9th July Literacy & Arts
Festival (2pm to 4.30pm - Sports Hall)

Tuesday, 3rd June Brightening the Air
at Old Vic for Take the Lead pupils and
parents (7.30pm)

Wednesday, 16th July KS3 Parents
Evening (3pm to 6pm – Sports Hall)



Year 11 visited the world famous **Royal Botanic Gardens**, Kew. The students were able to visit the iconic Temperate House, see views along the Treetop Walk and examine the soil quality at the largest and most diverse botanic and mycological collections in the world. The students behaved impeccably all the way through the trip, which involved travelling on public transport - no easy feat.

Mr Spencer, Science Teacher



Our trip to the **Garden Museum** was part of our local History curriculum. The Garden Museum was initially a church, St-Mary-at-Lambeth. It was built in the Anglo-Saxon period, possibly in the late ninth century, it then had some Norman influence added to its architecture. It was even listed in the 1086 Domesday Book commissioned by King William I (aka William the Conqueror). This shows how significant St-Mary-at-Lambeth was.



Our class had a fantastic time discovering the Church and its history. The learners enjoyed playing with LEGO during their break and discovering what was inside the sensory backpack.



Thank you to our beloved 7A Learning Mentors Ms Ward and Mr Chance and a big thank you to our fantastic Senior Learning Mentor, Ms Edgar who was our First Aider for the trip.

Ms. Mampouya, Humanities Teacher

We continue to promote a variety of Enrichment activities. One particular newsworthy item is Swimming where Ezenwa and Mateo received their 20m certificate at the end of last term. They both made significant progress in the pool as well as developing greater independence and resilience whilst accessing the local community.

Ms. Fordjour, HLTA/Learning Mentor



For our Year 11, as mentioned before, the exam period can be a stressful time for many of our students at Vanguard. We are extremely proud of their efforts through this period and are keen to support them in the next phase of education.

Some of our students will be staying with us through to Sixth Form but some of our students will be going on to college. Therefore, following the exam period and prior to the summer break, we are planning a full timetable with a range of enrichment activities alongside their continuing studies and a programmed of Life Skills, Careers and Further Education preparations. This programme will commence from June 16th until the end of the summer term and will be shared in advance with parents and carers after half term.

We want to make sure that our students have an enjoyable ending to the year and provide some great memories of their time with us at Vanguard.



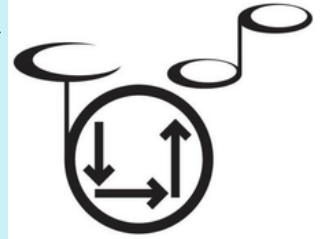
Whole School



I am excited to announce that Vanguard School has signed up to implement the **Rights Respecting Schools Award**. Dan Bunker, our Behavior and Pastoral Lead will be leading this along with the inclusion and pastoral team and has recently completed the training.

After half term, some of our students will be taking part in a drumming project run by the University of Chichester as a part of a research project. We hope the drumming lessons will offer students numerous benefits, such as enhancing physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development. Drumming can also improve hand-eye coordination, fine motor skills, focus, discipline and can provide a fun, engaging outlet for expression.

Ms. Grant, Occupational Therapist



Bikeability Training will take place within the school grounds and each year group will be able to access the Level 1 and 2 training. There are no fees, but we ask that you read the information and sign the consent forms for your child to participate.



Reyes loves cats and she has created the fluffiest and most touchable piece of art as part of her A level Art homework. A wonderful Year12 GCSE Art student, who wishes to be anonymous, has explored sewing stitches to an expert technical level. After telling us it was totally impossible!

Have a go. Surprise yourself.

Mr Renton. Art teacher

This year, the pupils will be provided with three transition weeks to support their transition from their current year group to their new classes ahead of the academic year. This will enable them to meet their new tutors and teachers to experience the change ahead of the holidays and hopefully reduce anxieties ahead of September.

