


Week A



**STUDENT
BULLETIN**

Monday 15th June 2026



VANDYKE UPPER SCHOOL

Safeguarding



VANDYKE UPPER SCHOOL

If you feel worried or upset about anything you see or hear in school, please speak to a member of the safeguarding team or any trusted staff member.

Email:

safeguarding@vandyke.org.uk

Google Classroom – Student Support and Guidance:

- [Link to Join – hedhmeoy](#)

School website under students has lots of resources too:

[Student Support Services and Internet Safety – Vandyke Upper School](#)

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

✉ safeguarding@vandyke.org.uk

☎ 01525 636700 <https://vandyke.beds.sch.uk/>

If you do not feel safe or need support or guidance for yourself, or for someone else, you must speak with an adult you trust. This can be any member of school staff or one of the school safeguarding team.



Mrs H Sides
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs C Powell
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs L Ferguson-Moore
Headteacher



Mr T Lally
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs C Fahy
Sixth Form Manager



Mrs C Williams
Head of Year



Mrs E Gaskell
Head of Year



Mrs Y Mileham
Head of Year

The Governor responsible for Safeguarding at Vandyke is Mrs Nia Haines

All staff and visitors should be wearing an ID badge, please alert the nearest trusted adult if you see a visitor without one.

Uniform and equipment check

Your tutor will now do a uniform and equipment check.

If there are any issues with your uniform, you will be asked to go to the year office.

Please see examples of acceptable uniform in the illustration on the right.

While your tutor is checking uniform, discuss the quote below. Do you agree? Why or why not?



Quote of the week:
“Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.”
- *Mother Teresa, Albanian-Indian Nobel Peace Prize Winner*

Example of Compulsory items:



Example of optional branded items from Wear2School



(PE use only)

Example of optional items:



House Point Rewards: Lunch Queue Passes!

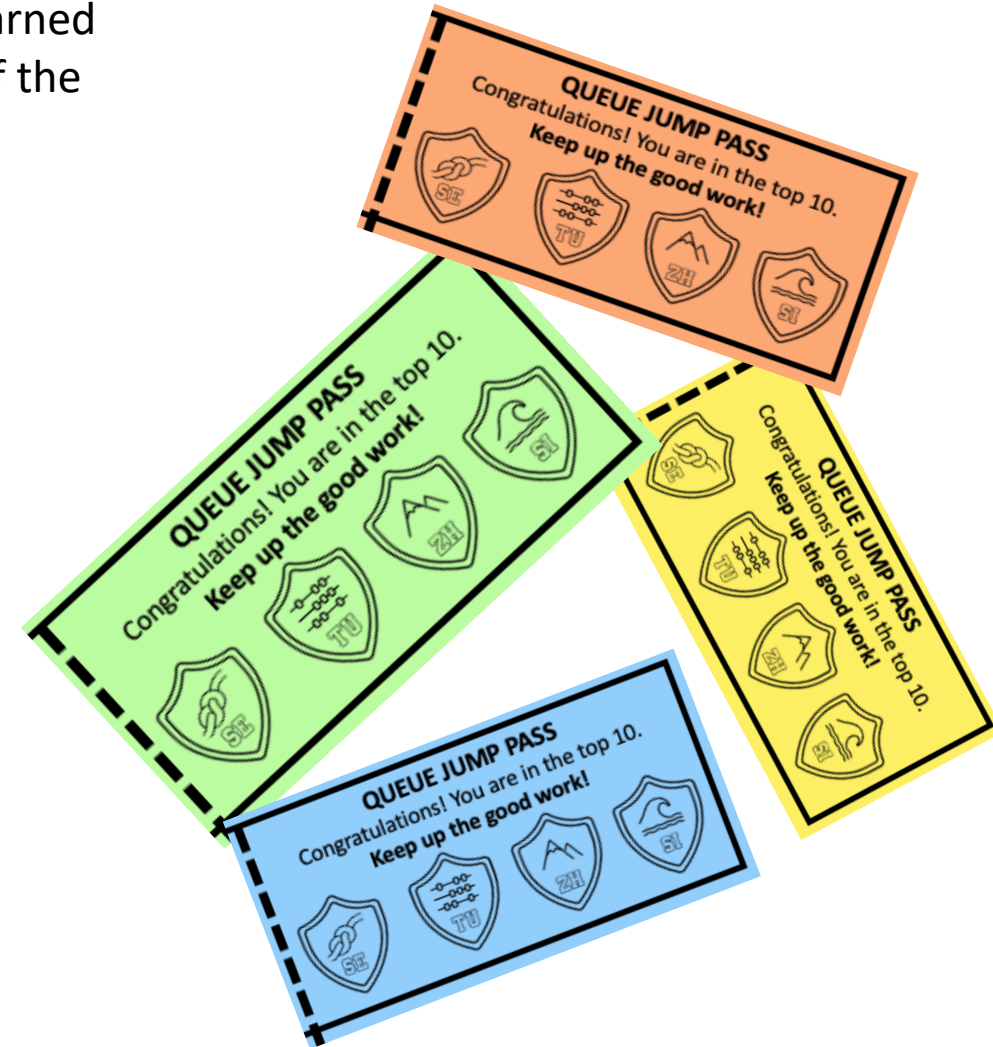
A huge well done to the top house point earners for last week. You have earned a lunch queue pass to skip the lunch queue. Show your pass at the front of the queue and you can even bring a friend with you!

New Yr10

Seb SE9HEG
Noah SI9ASD
Weronika TG9KSS
Finley SE9HEG
Elliot SI9TGY
Edie SI9ASD
Izzy SI9EFY
Gino SI9CMS
Olayinka SE9ABD
Josephine SI9TGY

New Yr11

Kiya TG10LDN
Jaiden ZH10MRI
Jack SE10GBL
Chloe SI10SBD
Oliver SE10GBL
Charlie SI10LMD
James SE10GBL
Tamara ZH10HCL
Cyril SE10MBS
Liam TG10AHS



DofE Notices – New Years 10-11

Year 10 Bronze DofE Award

If you started an activity section at the start of March, and have been completing weekly one hour sessions, you will complete your three-month time commitment in June. A meeting will be held in the theatre on Friday 26th June at lunchtime, to give you information about getting your assessor's reports completed.

Year 11 Silver DofE Award

You are now officially registered. Please log into your eDofE account to input your activity information for the Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections.



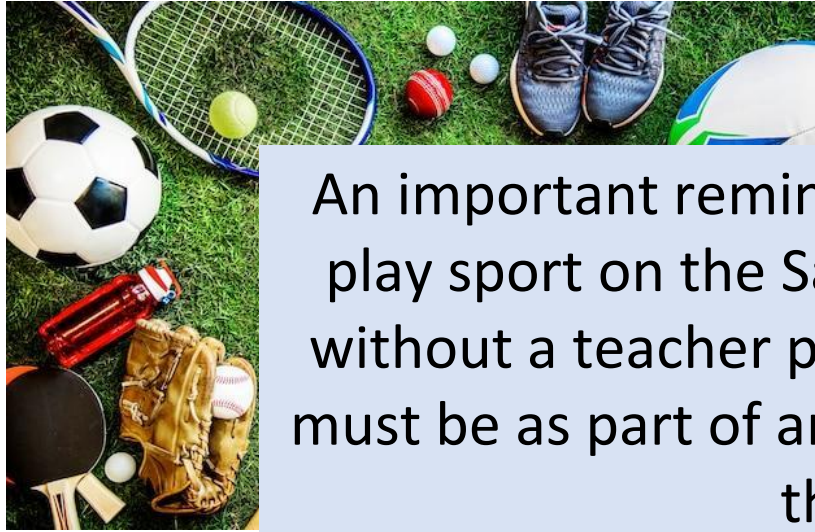
Message for new Year 10 drama students

Students in 10B (Drama lesson 1 on Friday 19th): On Friday 19th you have your stage combat drama workshop 9am-10.30am. This will start just before the end of tutor, and during lesson 1 which is your drama lesson, and half of P2. You need to go to tutor and get registered and then come to the drama studio at 8.55am. If you have not yet returned your letter you need to do so by Wednesday, and if you have any questions please come to the Drama studio and see me.

Students in 10D (Drama lesson 3 on Friday 19th): On Friday 19th you have your stage combat drama workshop 10.30am-12pm. This will be half of P2, break and your drama lesson which is lesson 3. You will need to leave lesson 2 at 10.25am and come straight to the drama studio. When your workshop finishes at 12pm, you will have a late break time 12pm-12.30pm before returning to lesson 4. If you have not yet returned your letter you need to do so by Wednesday, and if you have any questions please come to the Drama studio and see me.



AFTERSCHOOL SPORT:



An important reminder that students are not able to use or play sport on the Sand Astro or Netball courts after school without a teacher present. If you would like to play sport, it must be as part of an organised club, run by a teacher who is there to supervise you.

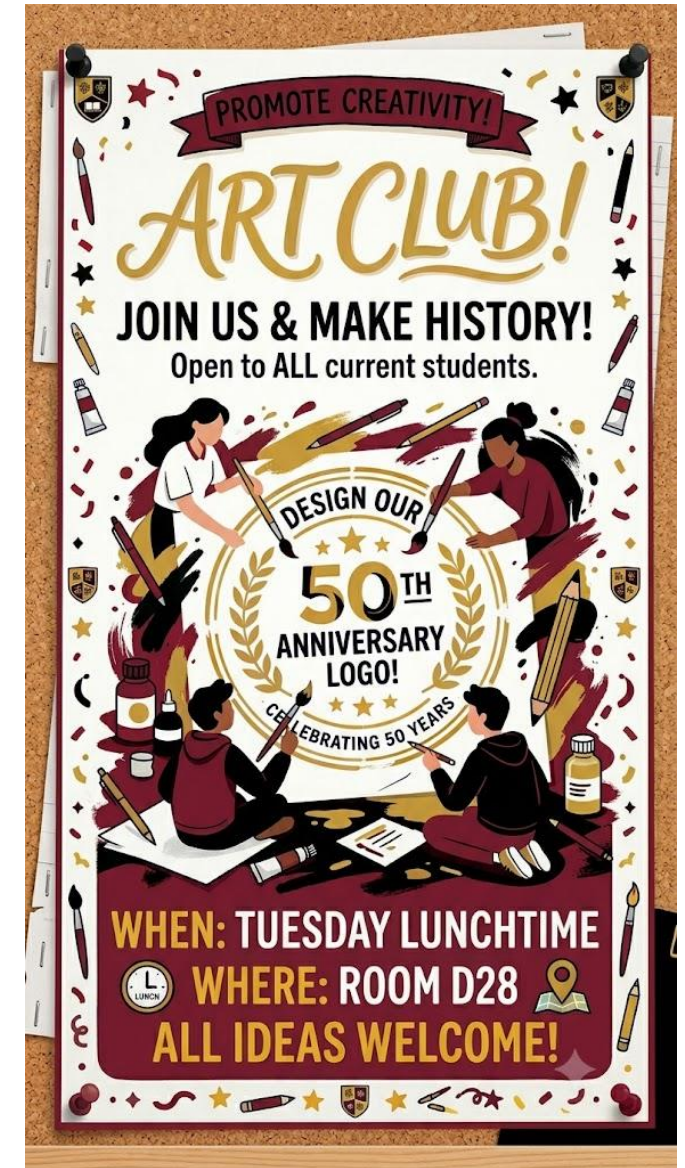
We would love to see more of you at the afterschool clubs – have a look at the new clubs timetable and have a think about which one you might try!



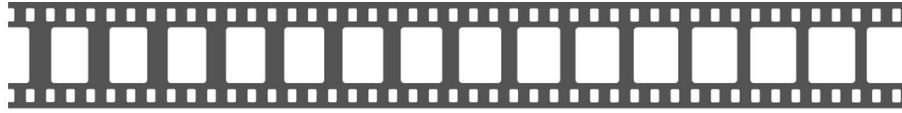
Vandyke's turning 50!

We are getting ready for our 50th anniversary celebrations and we need your help!

Come to D28 on Tuesday lunchtime to be a part of Vandyke history and help us design our 50th anniversary logo.



Film Club



FILM CLUB

June

June's Theme: Environmental Films

The image shows three movie posters side-by-side. From left to right: WALL-E, BEASTS OF THE SOUTHERN WILD, and MY OCTOPUS TEACHER. The posters are arranged in a rounded rectangular frame with green leafy decorations at the top-left and bottom-right corners.

Last chance to vote
for the film you want
to watch!

Vote for your choice:



SCAN ME

<https://bit.ly/FilmClubVote>



SCAN ME

Screening: Wednesday 17th June
in C7. Starting at 3:10

SPORTS FESTIVAL 2026

OPTION A:

Football

Benchball

Netball

Softball

Danish Longball

Wacky Races



Video link if it doesn't work:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/10DriSGdps-4f40KESgZVZlguG6ntV9mf/view?usp=drive_link

OPTION B:

Dodgeball

Trampolining ★

Rounders

Girls Football ★

Tag Rugby

Table tennis

Volleyball

*If you are going to be absent on the day of your sign-up make sure your tutor knows what events you would like to do so they can sign up for you.

★ New events!

Y10 SPORTS FESTIVAL SIGN UP DATES 2026

NEW YEAR 10	
Tuesday 16 th June	Y10 Seacole
Wednesday 17 th June	Y10 Simmonds
Thursday 18 th June	Y10 Zephaniah
Friday 19 th June	Y10 Turing

Y11 SPORTS FESTIVAL SIGN UP DATES 2026

NEW YEAR 11	
Tuesday 9 th June	Y11 Seacole
Wednesday 10 th June	Y11 Simmonds
Thursday 11 th June	Y11 Zephaniah
Friday 12 th June	Y11 Turing

SPORTS FESTIVAL SUMMARY

The **biggest** house competition of the year.

- Over the next 2 weeks, you will need to sign up to **two** sports. One from list A and one from list B.
- There is a media team only for students who have arranged medical exemption from PE.
- On your allocated sign up day, your tutor will take you to the Astro after registration to sign up for your preferred events.
- If you are absent on your sign up day your Head of House will sign you up to a sport that has spaces left. Try to get a message to your tutor / head of house with your preferred options if you know you are going to be absent.
- **TOP TIP:** Have a backup option just in case the activity you choose is very popular as there are limited spaces for some sports.

Guide to the Men's World Cup

Every four years the best men's teams on the planet gather to see who will be crowned world champions. This year's tournament will be co-hosted by Canada, Mexico and the United States.

The 48 teams are initially divided into 12 [four-team groups](#) with each team playing the others in the group once. The top two from each group, along with the eight best third-placed teams – 32 in total – will advance to the knockout stages.

Fifa has come under heavy criticism for the eye-watering ticket prices for matches this summer – [a Guardian analysis in December](#) found the cheapest for this year's final are nearly 10 times more expensive than they were for the 2022 tournament

Spain are aiming to follow up the European title [they won in 2024](#) with the World Cup this time around. [It's much the same story](#) with France, who reached the final in 2022. The reigning champions, Argentina, [will be contenders](#) but are not as strong as they were four years ago and their old rivals England are among the betting favorites.



Source: The Age and Guardian

Refugee Week 15th - 21st June

<https://refugeeweek.org/>



It is an international week designated by the United Nations to honour refugees around the globe. It celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution. It is an occasion to build empathy and understanding for their plight and to recognize their resilience in rebuilding their lives.

The world's largest arts and culture festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary.

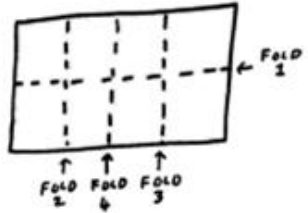
Pride Month Zines



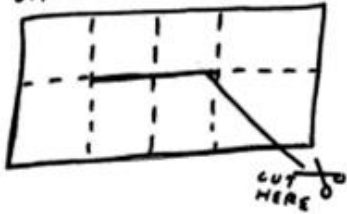
MAKE A MINI-ZINE

with @stevexoh 

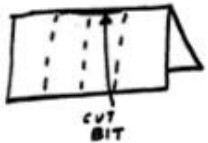
① FOLD A PIECE OF A4 PAPER



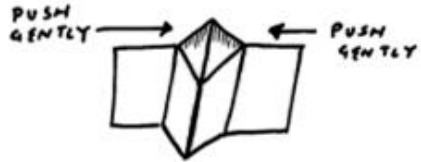
② CUT ALONG THE MIDDLE BIT AS SHOWN



③ FOLD IN HALF



④ PUSH ENDS TOGETHER SO HOLE POPS OPEN



⑤ FOLD IT TOGETHER SO IT FORMS A LITTLE BOOKLET OF 8 PAGES



⑥ WRITE YOUR ZINE + SHARE IT WITH THE WORLD



Making a zine for Pride month:

Different topics:

What is Pride?

What is an ally?

What do the different pride flags mean?

You can work individually or in pairs

You can enter your zine into the Pride Zine competition.

Happy Pride Month!

- June is Pride month, a month dedicated to celebrating the LGBT+ communities around the world.
- Pride is usually celebrated with parades and marches, and sometimes when people use the term 'Pride', they are referring to one of these events.
- June is the month chosen to celebrate Pride as it was the month of the Stonewall riots - more on these later.



Pride in the UK today

As rights and freedoms for LGBT+ people have improved over time, **Pride has increasingly become about celebrating the LGBT+ community**, their lives and their achievements.

Alongside this, Pride is also a key time for **local LGBT+ communities and organisations to come together** and push for further change to **improve the lives of LGBT+ people in the UK.**



The Stonewall Riots

Pride has a long history, rooted in the **political activism** of LGBT+ communities around the world.

Through the 1950s & 60s, LGBT+ people faced **legal discrimination** and were sometimes **raided** by police in their community spaces.

For example in the UK **male same-sex affection was illegal until 1967** and could have resulted in **arrest and imprisonment.**



The Stonewall Inn in 1969

Pride in the UK today

Pride in the UK today still has its political roots and Pride parades with floats, music and entertainment are **still often organised around contemporary LGBT+ issues.**

UK Black Pride (top right) and **Trans Pride in Brighton** (bottom right) foreground the issues that face parts of the LGBT+ community while **creating safe, inclusive spaces for everyone to celebrate Pride.**



What is an ally?

An **ally** is someone who supports people who may face discrimination that they themselves will most likely not experience.

LGBT+ allies are typically **straight, cisgender people** who support the rights of LGBT+ people and play an important role in improving the lives of LGBT+ people in the UK.



The LGBT+ ally flag

How can you be an ally?

The first step of being a good ally to someone else is **learning more about people who are different from you** and how their lives might be different.

This could include watching **TV shows**, **listening to music**, **reading books** or following **social media accounts** made by people from different backgrounds to you.



What LGBT+ authors, actors or musicians can you name?

What content could you read, listen to or watch to learn more about LGBT+ people and their lives?

How can you be an ally?

The second step to being a good ally is to **be respectful to those around you**.

It is important to **listen to people when they are telling you how they feel**, which is even more important when they may be talking about things you have never experienced. Being respectful in the **language** you and those around you use is also important to making people feel safe, welcome and comfortable.

One of your friends is talking about an situation that made them feel really uncomfortable, but you don't quite understand why – how could you respond?

Imagine someone uses a word in conversation you know would be offensive to one of your friends who isn't there – how could you respond?

How can you be an ally?

The third step to being a good ally is to **stand up for rights of people around you**, whether you will benefit directly from it or not.

Staying up to date with events in the UK and around the world and talking to those around you can help you understand more about issues others find important, and **highlight ways you might be able to show support for those causes yourself**.



What big issues have you heard about, either in the UK or around the world that you've **tried to learn more about or tried to support**?



The rainbow flag is seen at Pride events all around the world and is often used as a collective symbol for the entire LGBTQ+ community. Pink is for sex, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sun, green for nature, turquoise for magic, blue for serenity and purple for the spirit.



The bisexual Pride flag was designed by Michael Page in 1998 in order to give bisexual people a wider sense of community and visibility. The purple blends into both the blue and pink in the same way that bisexual people often blend unnoticed into both gay and straight communities.



The transgender Pride flag was created by [Monica Helms](#), a navy veteran who came out as trans in 1987. The idea for the design came to her quickly, with the blue for trans men, the pink for trans women and the white stripe in the centre representing the non-binary community.

Different pride flags (there are more...)

Is there another flag that means something to you?

You could make your zine on this.



Stonewall, Canada

A man rides a wakeboard in a ditch as people clean up after a storm in Manitoba



Mogadishu, Somalia

The referee Omar Abdulkadir Artan receives a hero's welcome as he arrives back in Somalia after being denied entry to the US, where he was due to officiate at Fifa World Cup matches



Gaza City, Gaza

Nursing students take part in a white coat ceremony, marking their graduation,



Argo, Afghanistan

A vendor selling bread waits for early morning customers



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