



MARCH GRAPEVINE

Dear Families,

It was a real pleasure to see so many parents this week—whether that was part of our parent consultations or Easter Tea with Reception classes. A strong home-school partnership is essential for every child and it really does make a difference with your attendance. An enormous thank you as well to the dedicated team here at The Vine. They work tirelessly to continuously develop well-rounded individuals here at school.

Part of that whole-school offer is our trip and club programme. We've had Year 2s off to the Tower of London, our choir rock out Wembley, netball teams, rugby teams, football teams taking part in several competitions and representing the school with pride. A highlight of mine this term was taking the Tag-Rugby players to Shelford RFC (other rugby clubs are available) where they competed against 24 others teams and came out victorious! A lot of the credit must go to Mr Johnson for his Tag-Rugby club in the Autumn Term.

We will work hard to continue that growth in all areas of the school to enable as many pupils to thrive as possible.

Lastly, once again thank you for all your support with our fundraisers this financial year. We have raised more and more funds (from our Colour Run to our Rainbow Raffle) towards our School Minibus. Again, this will allow us to take more and more pupils out and about without such a reliance on expensive coaches or parents. We really hope our 20 Year Fete will get us closer to that £16000 figure. Speaking of which, if you can donate any time this year towards setting up the fete or running a stall, please speak to Mrs Beedle in the office. Thank you in advance!

After Easter we are continuing with our hard work in and out of the classroom. We have plenty more exciting events including: netball finals, Northampton Saints Rugby coaches in for our Year 6s, Tag Rugby competitions, the Skipping Ninja, a Reception trip to Knebworth and much more.

In the meantime, have a wonderful break and I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 13th April.

Happy Easter.

Mr Hynes



MARCH GRAPEVINE

Diary Dates

Spring Term 2026

27 March Spring Term Ends 1:30pm

Summer Term 2026

13 April Summer Term Starts
 28 April Reception Knebworth House
 4 May May Day
 8 May Garden Club Sale
 11 May SATs Week
 19 May Fete Donation Day
 25 May—5 June Half Term
 3 July Summer Fete—date change
 21 July Summer Term Ends 1:30pm

Autumn Term 2026

1 Sept Staff Training Day
 2 Sept Autumn Term Starts
 26—30 Oct Half Term
 18 Dec Autumn Term Ends 1:30pm

SCHOOL SUCCESSES

Our **Lead Learners** this week are:

Stella & Zaiden (Ruby), Eleanor & Aarika (Coral), Markos (Amber), Royale (Topaz), Marysia (Emerald), Ruby (Jade) Miriam (Turquoise), Aleena (Jasper), Noah (Sapphire), Iris (Moonstone), Ashley (Amethyst), Sharada (Tanzanite), Isaac (Pearl) and Poppy (Opal)

Friday Footsteps

20 points to all houses—for taking part in the Big Walk and Wheel

ATTENDANCE AWARD - WEEK 26

WHOLE SCHOOL YEARLY ATTENDANCE— 95%

YEAR GROUP WINNER— Year 6

CLASS WINNER - Opal class

KINDNESS VINE

We are slowly creating a culture of kindness throughout The Vine. Each week, children who have demonstrated these value, has had their name written on one of our 'kindness leaves'.



Our Kindness Vine has grown lots this week—Leaves have grown for Turquoise class for



September 2023

excellent exploring in Art.
 The Vine chickens for laying such tasty eggs.

Mrs Richardson for always

been kind and supportive—Turquoise class.



September 2024



September 2025



March 2026

Asra for sharing your knowledge of Ramadan and Eid with us. Alfie for helping Mrs Bransbury clean ropes.



MARCH GRAPEVINE

READING @ THE VINE

Accelerated Reader Update



Keep up the excellent work with your reading! . Congratulations to everyone who has reached their target in Spring 2! This week, especially well done to: Dhruv and Mia (Y2)

Jax, Benas, Elim, Lexi, Max and Miriam (Y3)

Bella, Emelia, Franck, Issac, Izzy, Joben, Julia, Lucy, Marcelina and Toby (Y4) Alana, Anaya, Andrea, Emilia, Georgia, Harry, Henry, Jevindu, Keira, Lukas, Owen, Pippa, Sharada, Thanvi, Zainab and Zikora (Y5)

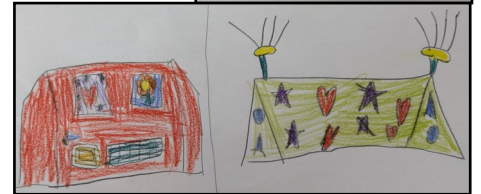
Esme C, Hamza, Isabelle, Penelope, Peter and Renesmee (Y6)

Don't forget that you still have the Easter holidays to reach your target if you haven't quite made it yet - they will reset on the first Monday of next term.

Huge congratulations to our newest word millionaires, all from Year 6 - **Holly B, Leon T and Maamun.**

And a special shout out to **Opal Class** (and to Mrs Catton and Mrs Pinn), because the whole class reached their target this half term!! Well done 🌟

This half term, some of our Year 6 pupils have been getting a taste of leadership as they planned and ran a book group for some of our enthusiastic younger readers. The book was "Mr Stink" by David Walliams and the activities on offer included discussions of the main character's back story, dramatic re-enactments of parts of the story and predictions about what was to come. This is some of the artwork that was produced on the subject of making the garden shed more homely for Mr Stink. Sophia, George G, Evelyn and Pia (Y6) should be very proud of themselves for the fun activities they planned and the encouragement they gave the younger pupils.



SCHOOL HOUSES

Cross Country

Our Spring 2 House Competition was our Cross Country Competition, where every child walked or ran our course on the school field. The children did incredibly well and we were so pleased to see so many children earn a House point for just finishing.

Slightly different to last year, the winning boy and girl from each House, then competed in a relay-style cross country race on the Friday. It was incredibly close, but many congratulations to Kite House for winning.

House Winner Spring Term—Eagles

Congratulations to Eagles House, who won our Spring Term House Point Competition. It's always hard to work out who is happier—the staff or pupils, but they will begin planning for their treat which will be after the Easter Break

Eagle



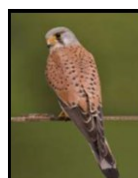
Falcon



Harrier



Hawk



Kestrel



Kite





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SO PROUD....

A Modeshift STARS Success Story for The Vine

We are so proud to announce that The Vine has recently been awarded an Outstanding (Platinum level) Modeshift STARS award. The Vine Green Sustainability team were honoured to accept the award.

The following article has been written by Cambridgeshire County Council for their Way to Go Traffic newsletter.

The Vine Primary School in Cambourne continues to stand out as one of Cambridgeshire's strongest examples of commitment to safe, sustainable travel. As an *Outstanding* (Platinum-level) Modeshift STARS school, The Vine has built a culture where active travel is not just encouraged but embedded into everyday school life. This spring, their work offers inspiration for other schools across the county.

A Whole-School Approach to Active Travel

The Vine has long recognised that safer, greener travel benefits the entire school community. Their approach combines pupil leadership, staff engagement, and strong support from families. This term, the school is continuing to:

- Promote walking, cycling, and scooting as the default choice for local journeys.—Maintain clear, consistent messaging about safe behaviour around the school gates.

- Encourage families to reduce car use, helping to ease congestion and improve air quality.

This joined-up effort has helped the school sustain high levels of active travel even as the community continues to grow.

Pupil Leadership at the Heart of Their Success

One of The Vine's strengths is the way pupils are empowered to take ownership of travel initiatives. Pupils play a key role in:-

- Leading assemblies and awareness campaigns.—Gathering pupil feedback on travel issues.—Helping to design posters, competitions, and safety messages.

- Supporting whole-school events such as Walk to School challenges.

This pupil-led model not only supports Modeshift STARS criteria but also builds confidence, responsibility, and pride among the children.

Making the Most of Spring Opportunities

With longer days and better weather, The Vine is using the spring term to refresh and expand its active travel activities. This includes:- Encouraging families to take part in national events such as the Big Walk and Wheel.- Running scooter and cycling initiatives to build skills and confidence.- Reinforcing safe crossing messages as more children travel independently.

- Reviewing their travel plan to ensure it reflects current needs and priorities.

These seasonal activities help maintain momentum and keep the school community engaged.

A Model for Other Schools

The Vine's sustained success demonstrates what can be achieved when a school embraces the Modeshift STARS framework with enthusiasm and consistency. Their commitment to safer, healthier travel has created a positive culture that benefits pupils, families, and the wider community. As other schools in Cambridgeshire work towards their own accreditations this spring, The Vine provides a strong example of what effective, long-term active travel leadership looks like.





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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Garden Club have been enjoying the first few glimpses of Spring weather and preparing our allotment plots for planting by weeding and mulching. We are sowing our tomato seeds and propagating plants in preparation for our Spring Garden Club sale on May 8th this year. We will once again be selling a collection of tomatoes, pumpkins, courgettes and ornamental flowering plants for the bargain price of £1.50 each. The proceeds of the sale will go to Shepreth hedgehog hospital.



Have you heard about the National Education Nature Park? This programme was launched in 2023 by the Department for Education, the Natural History museum and the Royal Horticultural society. It's aims are to empower children and young people to make a positive difference for both their own future and nature's future. We are now participating and have mapped our grounds to improve habitats and monitor biodiversity changes. You can take a look at the map here: [The Nature Park Map | Education Nature Park](#)

Our Orchard has started to blossom, beginning with the Apricot trees. We have completed our project to create a bumblebee habitat, in collaboration with visitors to the Cambourne Eco festival last year, where we painted terracotta pots. If you would like to try this fun project at home, you can find more information here.

[Make space for bumblebee nest](#)

Fantastic fun celebrating Holi Festival of Colours

Raising £580!



On Wednesday 18th March Year 2 visited the Tower of London. When we got there we were treated to a gun salute with cannons being fired across the river Thames. We marvelled at the crown jewels including seeing the Imperial crown, sceptre and orb which we have been learning about in our History topics. We visited rooms full of armour which had belonged to Henry VIII, Charles I and Charles II. We got to talk to Beefeaters about their job as a Yeoman Warden and saw the Coldstream Guards guarding the jewels and the King's House. Our visit truly helped bring our History learning to life and gave us, in the words of the pupils 'the best day of our lives'!





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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

CB23 Girls football

Fabulous girls football tournament last week. It was great to see the girls having so much fun, especially the girls who hadn't played in a competition before and they got so much joy at taking part and cheering each other on. Fantastic results all round The Vine Team B came joint 3rd for the Cup and the Vine Team A was runners up for the Plate. Well done everyone.



Netball On Monday 2nd March, two teams made the trip to Cambourne Village College to represent The Vine at Netball. Each team played games against other local Primary Schools and even played each other. Both teams showed great teamwork, determination and perseverance considering this was the first time they were playing with each other. The Vine Team Year 5 team showed quick passing, moving and intercepting and soon got up to speed with each other ending the tournament in 3rd place!

The Vine Team Year 6 team showed great vision, movement and again began to work with each other playing some great netball. The team ended up a commendable 5th place.

It was a great afternoon of netball and all of the players should be proud of their achievements and their conduct. Both teams will be competing again in the first couple of weeks of the summer term. Well done to all involved.

Tag Rugby

England lifting the World Cup 2003, Larkham's drop goal against South Africa in the 1999 World Cup, the Lions tying with New Zealand and The Vine Tag Rugby champions of South Cambs.... All will live long in the memories of passionate rugby fans. Our Year 6 team were fantastic throughout and put in a very strong string of performances to clinch the trophy. They did not lose a single game (even beating local rivals Monkfield) and head to the South Cambs Regional Finals in a month or so to do battle once more.....



Reception Easter Tea Party

Yesterday, our Reception classes hosted a delightful Easter Afternoon Tea, and it was wonderful to see so many parents and carers join us for the celebration. Families enjoyed sitting together to share tea, cakes, and seasonal treats, as well as conversation! In the days leading up to the event, the children worked hard to make beautiful Easter and spring-themed decorations. Their colourful work transformed the hall, making it feel truly festive and full of cheer. Guests were also treated to a special performance, as the children proudly sang a couple of springtime songs and showcased a joyful dance they had been practising. The afternoon was filled with smiles, chatter, and community spirit. It was a lovely opportunity for families to spend time together, meet one another, and celebrate the season. Thank you to everyone who came along and helped make the event so memorable!



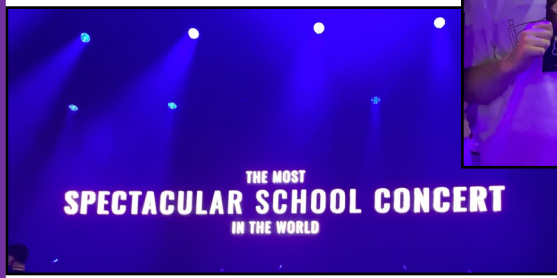


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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

VIAM

On Wednesday 18th March, the Vine Voices choir headed to the Wembley OVO Arena to take part in Voice in a Million. Voice in a Million is a fantastic collaborative performance where 160 schools from all over the UK (6000 children) come together to sing a range of songs. The performance helps to raise money for the charity AdoptionUK. During the afternoon, we rehearsed the songs ready for the evening performance which started at 7:15pm. Three lucky Year 6 children (Nina, Emily and Poppy) even got to go on the stage in front of 12000 people during the banner parade. Although it was a late night, we had an amazing time and it was an experience which will never be forgotten!



Remember—Huntingdonshire Young Artist Competition

Seven Vine School pupils submitted artwork. Their work was displayed at St Ivo Academy alongside works from other young artists. Well done to all who took part and congratulations to Eva in Y2 who won 1st prize in the KS1 Drawing category.



Well done to Evelyn and parents who completed a litter pick around the school perimeter, the woods behind the school and the wildlife path near the car park. They picked up 5 bags of rubbish and a broken buggy. All part of **The Great British Spring Clean**



www.keepbritaintidy.org

Big Walk and Wheel

Huge thanks and congratulations to everyone who has taken part in the Big Walk and Wheel. As a school we were placed 239th out of over 1000 large primary schools which took part. Special mention to Sapphire Class who held on to the top spot for the majority of the event! Hopefully you have all felt the benefits and let's hope for some lovely weather after the Easter break to help us continue walking and wheeling to school.

Well done, everyone!



The overall leading class badge is held by... **Sapphire with 234 journeys**



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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

World Book Day

On Thursday 5th March, it was World Book Day—A day to celebrate all things reading! For one day, our classrooms were full of famous book characters and covers and we were so impressed with the efforts put into costumes by all pupils, families and staff.

As this year is The Vine's 20th anniversary, we decided to tell 'Our Story' - a tale of how The Vine began. Each class took one small part and worked together to create a page of our own book to share the story of our fantastic school.

Alongside this, the day was filled with a range of other activities to celebrate reading, including a book swap, shared reading in houses and listening to stories read by our own Year Sixes.

We had an incredibly high standard of entries for our wooden spoon competition. Judging them was a challenging task for our prefects, but they chose superb entries for our winners. Congratulations to Amelie, Royale and Marysia!

In worship, the final of our Masked Reader took place and after



much excitement and speculation, 'Toast' was crowned as our champion. Congratulations Mrs Thompson!

Scholastic Book Fair

Our Winter and Spring Scholastic Book Fairs have raised a total of **£1095** to spend on new books for our school.

Thank you for your support!



WHAT'S COMING UP

Spring Rainbow Raffle And the winners are.....



- Red:** Zora—Jade class
- Orange:** Jax—Jasper class
- Yellow:** Lexi—Jasper class
- Green:** Kiara—Topaz class
- Blue:** Oscar C—Topaz class
- Purple:** Evie S—Sapphire class

Parent Governor Vacancy

After Easter, we will be advertising the vacancy for a Parent Governor to join our Governing Body. This vacancy is open to all parents and carers of children in this school. Being a governor will give you an opportunity to help shape and the guide the progress of the Vine Inter-Church Primary school. If you have any questions, please contact the Headteacher.



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WHAT'S COMING UP



20th Birthday Fete Celebration Friday 3rd July



We need many helpers to have a successful fete!

Can you help with our fete?

Can you help prepare stalls in the weeks before the fete?

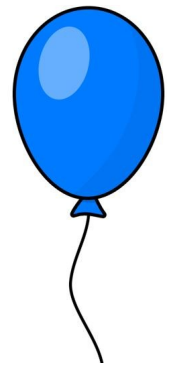
Can you help set up on the day?

Can you help run a stall in the evening?

Do you have any good ideas of things to do differently?

Do you know anyone who can offer prizes?

Please email the office or pop to the office to sign up if you can help with any of these things. We'd love to hear from you.



Donation Day—Tuesday 19th May—non-uniform

Start saving items over Easter for our stalls and prizes.

Clean glass jars with lids for the sweetie tombola—ask your family and friends we need lots! Sweets. Bottles of wine and unwanted presents suitable for the Tombola.

Bottle Gift bags. Cuddly Toys. Lucky dip prizes.

Lots more information in the April newsletter.

Thank you