



# Vernon Primary School

March 2024



## Welcome

Welcome back after our half term holiday - I hope you all had a wonderful break. We have embarked on the second half of the Spring term with enthusiasm this week and the children have been continuing to enjoy their curriculum themes. We look forward to a busy few weeks ahead, which include our World Book Day celebration on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, our new Street Dance club for KS1, a range of educational visits and visitors, parents evening next week and a very exciting upcoming 'Stop, drop & read' Usborne sponsored read event after Easter (more information on this to follow in the coming weeks). We are all looking forward to brighter, warmer weather as Spring approaches. I hope you enjoy reading about what each year group has been doing over the past few weeks.

## Reception

Before the half term holiday, the children enjoyed learning about the Chinese New Year (the year of the dragon). We looked at some examples of Chinese Lion and Dragon dancing and then recreated our own routines during PE using the dragon heads we had created earlier in the week. We also made our own Chinese lanterns, having a go at copying the Chinese symbols to decorate them. It was lovely to hear about the children's own experiences of celebrating the Chinese New Year this weekend, sharing photos of the parades in Manchester and family meals in restaurants!

## Year 1

Year One have been embracing their learning around Monarchy Mayhem this term. We have learnt about the Royal family, how they are related to each other and also the history of the Royal family. We have enjoyed retelling stories aligned with our theme, such as 'The Cook and the King', 'The Queen's Hat' and 'The Queen's Knickers'. We have also composed a fantastic new dance linked to the Great Fire of London which you will be able to watch via a QR code in the children's study books. On the 5<sup>th</sup> March, we are looking forward to our educational visit to Staircase House where we will be extending our learning. Children are enjoying studying Tudor houses; thank you for sharing their wonderful photos on Google classroom. We're loving the use of Google Classroom as a learning and interaction platform; please feel free to share the children's learning and experiences outside of school.



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## Year 2

Year 2 had a wonderful first half term. They have fully embraced their theme of 'Hakuna Matata'. In English we have had fun focusing on our narrative units and developing our sentence structures. The children have written their own 'Lion Inside' and 'Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion' stories. We LOVED learning the rap version of the 'Lion Inside' and can recite it word-for-word! In Maths we have explored 2D and 3D shapes; we had a great time using the geoboards to create different shapes. In Science we have been investigating how plants grow; we planted bulbs, seeds and beans in a bag. We then investigated different growing conditions for cress and found the classroom environment to be the best for germination. In Geography we have been focusing on 'Why is our World Wonderful?' We have learnt about different beautiful features in the UK and across the World and are now focusing on the local area of Poynton. We created our own sketch maps of Poynton showing the local features.



## Year 3

This Spring Term Year 3 have immersed themselves in our theme, 'Chariots of Fire'. In Geography we have loved learning about different types of volcanoes and mountains! In English we have also written some fantastic 'Mount Vesuvius' volcanic eruption descriptions! In Maths we have been focusing on statistics, measurement and multiplication and division.

Well done Year 3 for all of your hard work this half term! We are looking forward to the rest of our Spring Term together.



## Year 4

### Trip to the Amazon

Year 4 had action packed first half term! First, we were whisked away to the Amazon by a Geographical Association consultant and a Brazilian photo journalist. The session challenged misconceptions about the Rainforest, helped children to determine its extent and location and allowed them to discover more about the Rainforest biome through artefact investigation.

### Tattenhall Residential

Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic night away at Tattenhall recently. The children celebrated all things performing arts and created a batik masterpiece that they will use later in the term as part of their next D&T project! Well done Year 4.



## Year 5

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February, we visited Quarry Bank Mill in Cheshire as part of our Spring theme, 'Inspiring Inventors'. The children learnt about the life of children living in the 1800s. During the day, they found out about the production of cotton and the jobs that young children would have had in the mill. They got to try out first-hand some of these jobs as they pretended to be scavengers, can carriers, bobbin workers and bed makers. This amazing experience gave the children a real insight into what life was really like during these times. Cerys in 5ME stated 'I couldn't believe how loud the machines were in the factory. I also found it very unfair that girls and women were treated as less important than boys and men during this time'. As always, the children were a real credit to Vernon during the visit due to their impeccable behaviour and enthusiasm to learn.



# Year 6

Year 6 have been thoroughly enjoying exploring the Maya Civilisation. In DT, we have used oasis to carve our own Mayan inspired blocks; they have become part of our set design for our play, 'The Hero Twins.' Geography has focused on locational knowledge, including counties, regions, Great Britain, Continents and the world, understanding where we live in the world. We have compared this to the continents of North and South America, including countries such as Mexico. We have also been exploring the positive and negative impact of AI, considering how AI sounds new but has been around for a long time, and what jobs in the future will use AI.



## Sport

### Football

It has been an exciting term so far for Football. Children from Years 3 and 4 had the opportunity to play at the Manchester City Football Academy where they participated in an exciting tournament. All the children were amazing and made the most of the opportunity. Year 4 were triumphant and won the competition and are through to the final round. We can't wait to see how they get on!

The football league has started up again and a many children have enjoyed representing Vernon, showing wonderful team spirit. It has been incredible to see how supportive the children are of each other by cheering from the sidelines and high-fiving mid game. Well done Vernon footballers!



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### Sportshall Athletics

In January, a group of Year 6 children went to Poynton Leisure Centre to take part in Sportshall Athletics against local schools. The hall was filled with a buzz of excitement as the children competed in a range of events. Obstacle courses, throwing and jumping events were just a few that we took part in. Vernon Primary came 3<sup>rd</sup> and we are incredibly proud of all the children that represented the school.



## Safeguarding & Wellbeing

### School events

Safer Internet day 2024 was on 6<sup>th</sup> February; on this day, we invited our local PCSOs into school to talk with the children. Some of the classes were also involved in an 'online live lesson' joined by many children across the country; the feedback for this was extremely positive. Staff across the school all had a focus throughout the week on the importance of staying safe online.

### Safeguarding and Wellbeing Committee.

Our committee have been very busy working with Miss Wood and Mrs Walmsley on a variety of tasks. These include some new posters for around school and an assembly to the whole school talking about 'child on child abuse'. On the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 some of the committee met with representatives from other schools, the high school and Poynton Town Council as a follow up meeting from last year. The children discussed topics such as 'How safe do we feel in Poynton?' and 'What can be done to improve this?' along with other local issues. The children were thoroughly engaged and we are extremely proud of how they represented Vernon.



# School Office

You can contact the school office on email to [admin@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk)

Call us on 01625 872556 or visit us in person we are open from 08:30-16:30 every day.

Please continue to report absences in the usual way. If you are informing us of a period of absence, not medical related, please ensure you email; [absence@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:absence@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk)

We kindly request that, where possible, any appointments for the children are made outside of the school day. We understand this is not always possible. However, we request that your appointment letter or confirmation is emailed to school so that it can be recorded correctly in the register.

## Uniform

The school uniform policy can be found on the website.

We request that skins/base layers are not worn under the uniform.

For health and safety reasons, please remove any jewellery before coming to school; a watch and small stud earrings are permitted but earrings must be removed for PE and no necklaces or bracelets should be worn in school.

Makeup and hair dye is not permitted and long hair must be tied up.

If you need assistance with uniform please speak to the office and we will help.

## Diary Dates

Spring Term 2024	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 Staircase House Visit
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents/Carers Evenings
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 Maya workshop
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Whitworth Art Gallery Visit
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Year 2 Chester Zoo Visit
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Second hand book sale
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 Royal Ball Day
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Finish for the Easter Holidays
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Bank Holiday (Good Friday)
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Return to school (Summer term)