

# December 2024 Newsletter



## Welcome

We are feeling very festive in school after all our lovely Christmas events.

It is such a treat for me to watch all of the children take part in their performances and hear about Years 5 and 6 pupils on their theatre trip. I would like to thank all of the Parents and Carers for their support in learning lines, costumes and coming along to the shows themselves and also to my fabulous team who make these events happen.

We have had some fantastic visitors this half term, leading sessions related to our termly themes: Y5 Greek day, Y1 Minibeast day and Y3 Stone age day.

The Y6 children visited the Imperial War Museum North learning more about World War 2. The children all looked fantastic in their evacuee costumes; I'm not sure they were overly keen on their rationing-inspired lunches!

There have been some brilliant whole school events, including odd socks day, Children in Need and to finish the term, and finally our lovely Christmas Fair.

I hope you all enjoy the festive period with family and friends and I would like to wish you all a peaceful new year. We will look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 6th January 2025!

Mrs Carvell

## Catering News

We are pleased to announce that our new caterers, Aspens, will be taking over the kitchen in the new year. Our lovely team of school cooks are staying with us and will continue to cook delicious meals. Look out for our new menus and themed events coming soon! See Spider for more details.

## Fundraising

Thank you to everyone that came along to our wreath-making event and to Mrs Currall who showed everyone how to make their beautifully-festive arrangements. We raised a fabulous £511.96

The year 6 team turned their classroom into a Christmas craft workshop throughout November and December, and children from all years joined in making beautiful personalised Christmas baubles, raising an amazing £788 towards the computing fundraising initiative.

The in-school Christmas fair was an explosion of festivity and all of the classes were given an opportunity to visit throughout the day. Thank you to everyone who donated and gave time to support. The children love these events and without the support from our Vernon families and friends, the staff cannot do it on their own...so a huge thank you to you all. We raised £1659.92, which will go into the fundraising pot to buy curriculum resources and outdoor PE equipment, and investment in our IT provision.



1 - Our children's Christmas card artwork on a range of products

## Reception

After reading the story 'Peace at Last', we used our imaginations to think about what we might turn our own box into. We enjoyed a very creative DT morning constructing our designs and exploring different joining techniques to create handbags, cars, rockets, headphones and lots of other wonderful ideas too! The children were very proud to show one another their crafts and we evaluated our designs, talking about what we liked and what we might improve next time.

## Year 1



Year One have had a fabulous and exciting half term. We started off the term with our Minibeast Day, we enjoyed dressing up as our favourite minibeast and meeting the crazy critters. In D.T. we designed and created our own bug houses as well as exploring Art by using natural materials in the style of Andy Goldsworthy. In Computing we used digital painting to draw our own minibeast by understanding and using various different tools as well as developing our mouse control.

We are proud of the children during our Winter Wonderland performance, they all showed great enthusiasm and confidence performing on stage. They got all the adults in the festive spirit with their wonderful singing and dancing. We enjoyed our visit to St George's church to carry out the Christmas Story trail. In RE we have been learning about why Christians celebrate Christmas and our visit to the church brought the Christmas story to life. We hope the children have a well deserved rest and we look forward to seeing them in January. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

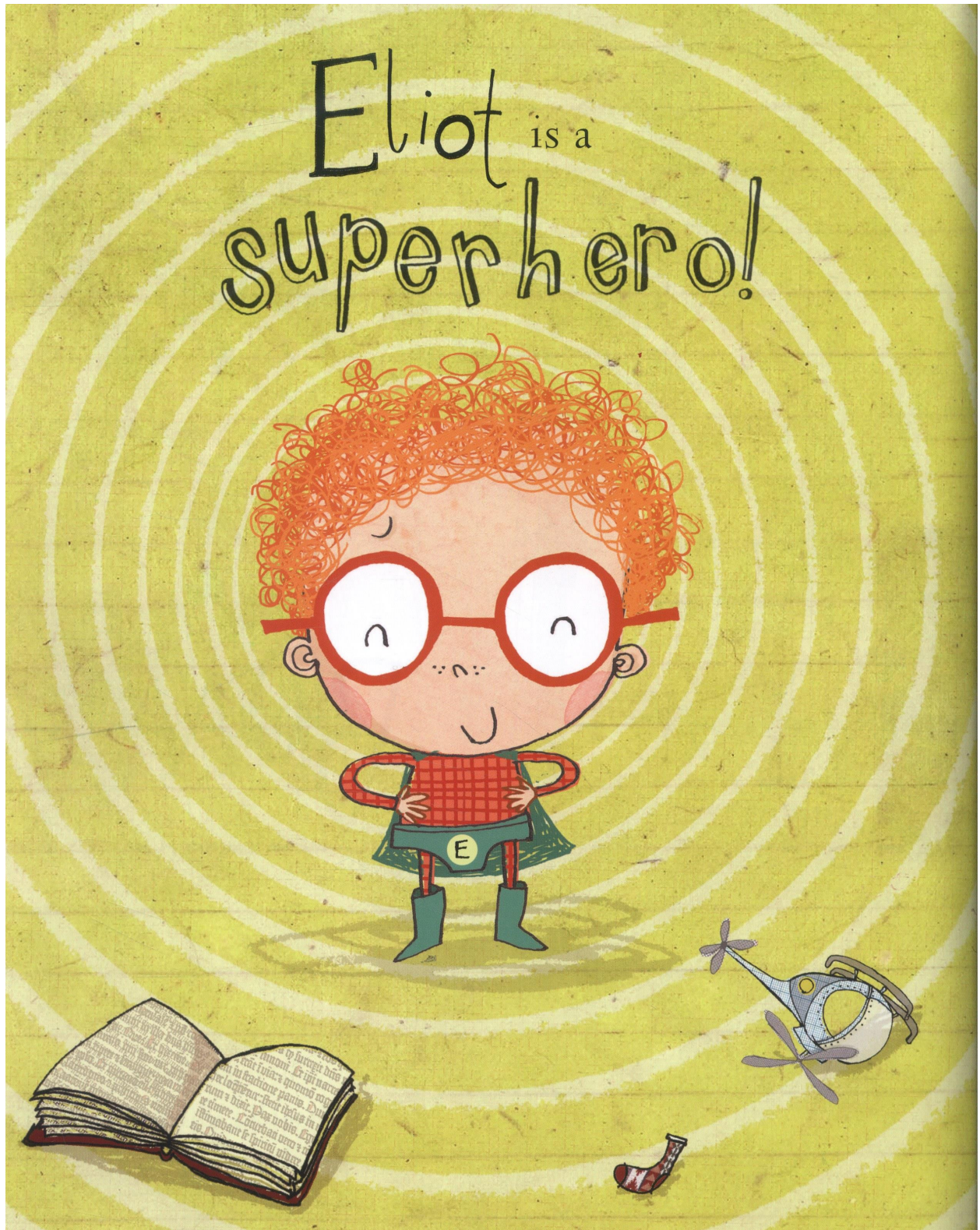








Year 2



Year 2 have had a fantastic and extremely busy half term. We have enjoyed continuing our learning surrounding the theme of Superheroes! In History, the children used all their knowledge learnt across the unit to conclude who they think was to blame for the sinking of the Titanic. The children came to their own decision and then had a debate to show all of their learning and listen to different viewpoints. Everyone demonstrated amazing knowledge about the key events of the disaster and the people who could be to blame.

In Art the children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring colour. They have shown interest and precision during their art lessons when colour mixing and painting. They have investigated adding black and white to colours to create tints and shades. All children created a fantastic self-portrait inspired by Andy Warhol and Heather Galler.

We had a lovely local visit to St George's church to visit the story trail. It was lovely to see the church transformed into the Christmas story. The CCSOs accompanied us on the walk down to the church and both classes were thanked for their wonderful behaviour both in the church and on the walk.

We finished the term with our FAB-U-LOUS Christmas Play 'Lights, Camel, Action!' All of the children sang, acted and danced brilliantly. We are very proud of their hard work and effort during the practising and the performance - well done Year 2, you all shone brightly like stars!





2 - An abstract self-portrait



3 - Year 2 Show Time!





4 - St George's Christmas story trail

## Year 3



Jonny Duddle

We have had an incredibly exciting half-term in Year 3. We started off with a brilliant Stone Age day where we did some spear-throwing and dressed up as Stone Age people which really helped us immerse ourselves in our history unit. In science, we enjoyed taking part in a range of experiments to help further our knowledge of plants. We loved popping balloons to see how seeds dispersed! We also loved taking part in our very own geography expedition in the playground, using compasses and following directions. We have experienced some wonderful Christmas events such as the story trail at St George's church, and we loved rehearsing and performing our incredible carol concert. It has also been a very creative half-term; we completed our silk painting inspired by Jamie Swim and our electronic treasure boxes. We are really looking forward to our next theme, 'Chariots of Fire' and learning all about the Roman Empire! Have a wonderful Christmas and a great start to the year.



*5 - Following directions on our playground expedition.*

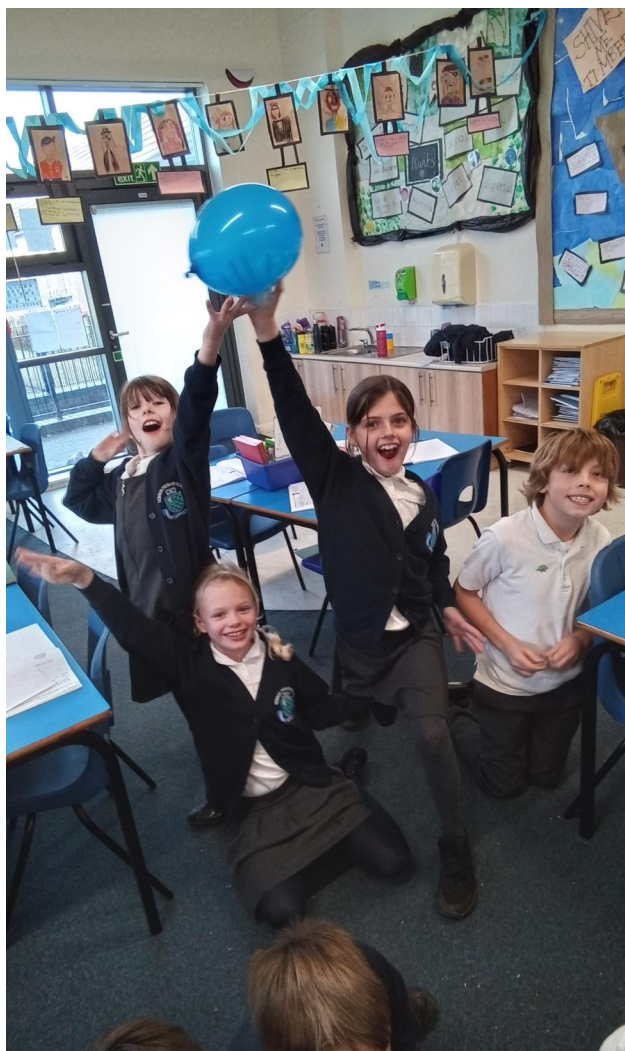


6 - A brilliant silk painting!





7 - A fantastic treasure box.



*8 - Ready to pop our balloons in science!*



*9 - Some incredibly scary Stone Age people!*

## Year 4



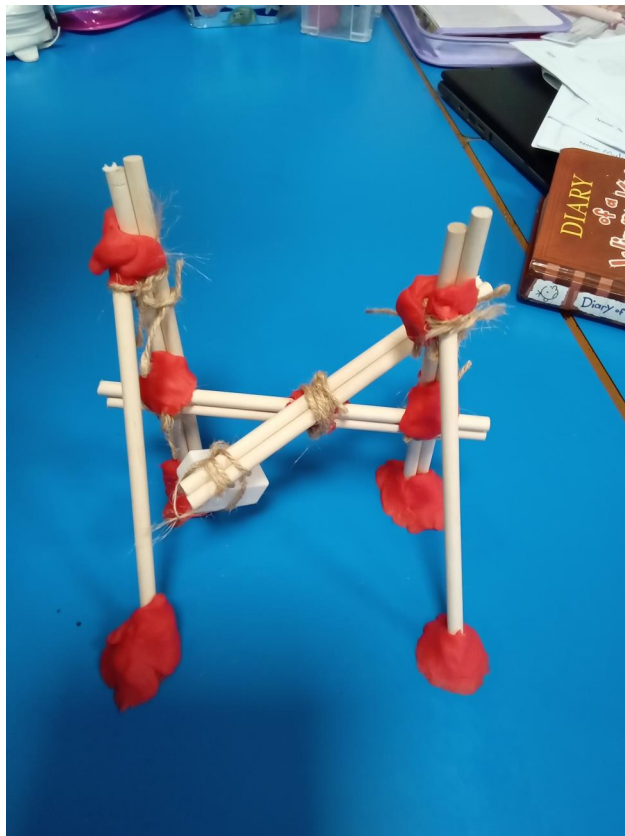
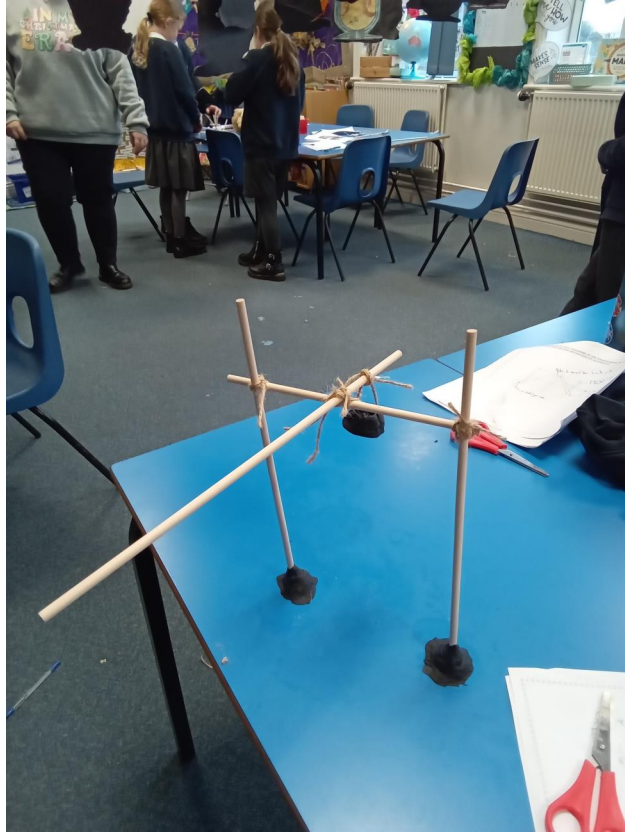
Year 4 have had a FANTASTIC half term! They have completed Geography fieldwork at Poynton brook where they assessed the human and physical features of the area and collected fieldwork notes that they then used to produce graphs back in school.

During DT lessons children drew inspiration from the Ancient Egyptians to create their own working models of a Shaduf. An ancient mechanism that could be used to move large amounts of water or stone. The children did a brilliant job of measuring, cutting (using joiner hacksaws) and constructing their designs.

### **Year 3 & 4 Christmas Performance**

Year 3 & 4 finished the term with a BRILLIANT Christmas performance at Poynton Baptist Church. The children sang beautifully and performed all their songs with enthusiasm and superb vocal skills! We had some fabulous reading and singing solos! The year 3 & 4 team would like to say a huge well done to everyone who took part they were exceptional.







## Year 5



Year Five had a great start to the half term with their Greek Day. 'Portals to the Past' came in to school to lead a workshop for the day, which began by learning about the different states within Greece and how democracy began. The children then took part in a re-enactment of the Minotaur myth. Back in the classrooms, they had to complete mathematical challenges and enhance their knowledge with a quiz. During the afternoon, a Greek Hoplite warrior visited and showed the children their weapons and armour. The day finished with a mini-Olympic games. Everyone had a fantastic time with lots of new knowledge gained and lots of fun along the way.





10 - Trying out the Ancient Greek weapons





## Year 5 Clarinet Concert

After just 10 sessions of music lessons, Year 5 students showcased their impressive new clarinet skills in a delightful concert for parents and carers. The performance featured a variety of songs, including *Hot Cross Buns*, *Spooky House*, and *Jingle Bells*.

The event was a fantastic celebration of the children's hard work and enthusiasm for music. A big thank you goes to Mrs. Howard for helping the children put on a brilliant show. We're thrilled that many of the children are choosing to continue their clarinet journey next term!



## Year 6



Year 6 have had a busy half term, which included a trip to the Imperial War Museum North. Here, they made documentaries about exhibits, bringing the history to life with their recordings. They enjoyed dressing as evacuees for the day and even brought a World War 2 inspired packed lunch for the trip. There were lots of pickled onions, scotch eggs, homemade cakes, jam sandwiches and one student even brought in porridge in a Thermos! Geography fieldwork was also completed on the streets of Poynton looking at the effect of population on certain areas. They enjoyed speaking with residents and completing Likert Surveys to capture data on residents' opinions. We have ended our fantastic term, learning about World War 2, with an essay entitled 'What was the turning point in World War 2?', leading to a brilliant debate with all children demonstrating their sound knowledge of the theme.







## Sport



### Intra-House Competition

On Thursday, 12th December, Vernon Primary hosted its first ever whole-school intra-house competition. Organised by 8BY8 Sports, the event saw children showcasing their skills in a thrilling game of bench ball. The competition was a resounding success, with teamwork and school spirit shining brightly across all year groups. We're already looking forward to the next intra-house competition at the end of the spring term, where even Reception will join the fun!



*12 - Year 5 Intra-House Competition*





*13 - Year 5 Intra-House Competition*

School Council

# STUDENT COUNCIL

School Council have had a busy and very exciting term! Our Food bank collection was a huge success! We managed to completely fill the Stockport Food bank collection van and they extended a very grateful thanks to all who donated.

In partnership with Eco Council, school council ran a 'Recycles Bauble' competition! All the entries were brilliant and after a very close vote the winners were announced as Ethan from KS1,

William from KS2 and Hannah from year 6 was our overall winner! Well done to everyone who took part the standard of entries was fantastic.

With Children In Need, Red Card to Racism and Odd socks day school council have worked incredibly hard to ensure that the pupils at Vernon are supporting brilliant causes and raising awareness of important issues. Keep your eyes peeled for future events in the Spring Term.



## Eco Council



The Eco Council has been awarded funding of £1000 from the WME Social Value Fund to be spent on eco initiatives at school! They have decided to continue with garden projects after their successful bug hotels and look at plants that attract wildlife and also food production. We would like to extend a huge thank you to the WME Social Value Fund and we look forward to sharing our updates as our garden grows! If we have any keen gardeners that would like to assist us with our project, please get in touch with the school office.





## School Lottery

Did you know that Vernon Primary has its own school lottery? It is a great way for you to support our school and be in with the chance to win the weekly cash prize, regular special draws and maybe even the £25,000 jackpot!

It is simple: choose 6 numbers between 0 and 9 and if they match the weekly lottery draw, you win great prizes. Tickets cost just £1 per week and for every ticket sold, a donation is made to our school. Every Saturday at 8pm, the numbers are drawn and posted online. Winners are notified by email and winnings paid into the account of your choice.

Don't miss the festive Super Draw on Saturday 21st December, where one lucky participant will win a £3000 Christmas cash bonus.

[Sign up to support our school](#)



## 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.

Please ensure that all uniform, coats and other personal items are clearly labelled with your child's name. If you purchase name labels from [www.mynametags.com](http://www.mynametags.com), please use the school ID 49069 and a proportion of the purchase price will be donated to school.



## School office



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

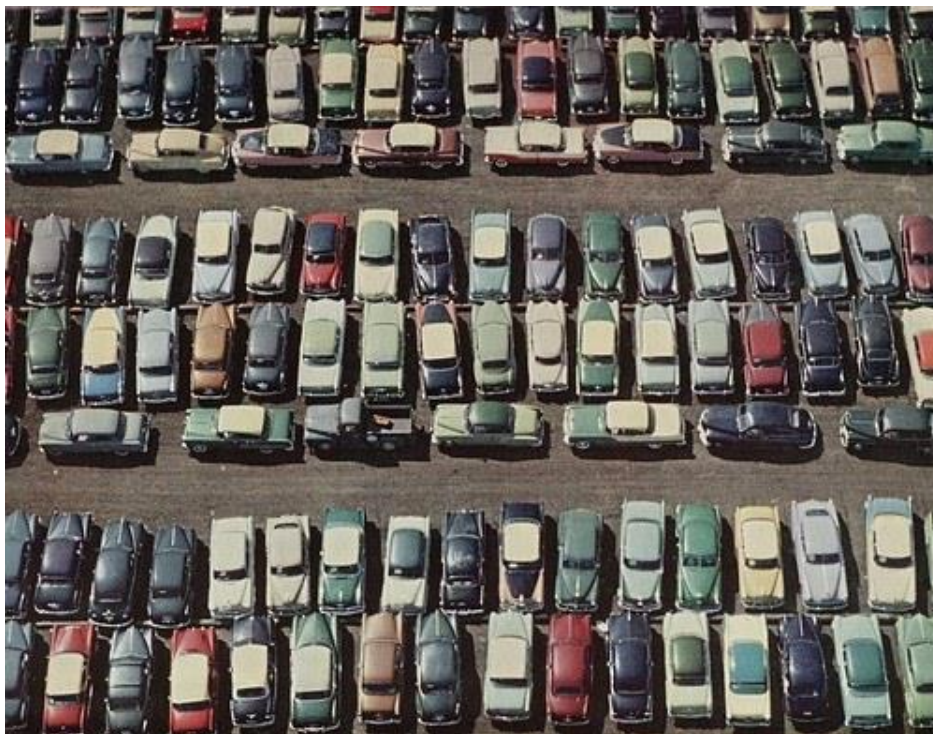
Call us on 01625 872556 or visit us in person; we are open from 08:30-16:30 every day.

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 us:

[absence@vernnonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:absence@vernnonprimary.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 accurately in the register.

## Parking



Please be mindful of our neighbours when you are parking your car at pick up and drop off. Please do not park on the double yellow lines, park too close to any of the junctions near school, block driveways or double park in the school car park.

We understand that it can be very busy around school in the morning and afternoon. However, we would advise taking an extra five minutes to park in the large car park next to Waitrose or walk to school.

If you have any specific concerns about parking and road safety, please contact our local CCSOs, PCSOs and Cheshire East.



Thank you for your cooperation with this matter and helping to keep all our children and families safe.

## Diary dates



Date	Event
8 <sup>th</sup> January	Yr4 residential meeting
20 <sup>th</sup> January	Yr1 Staircase House trip
6 <sup>th</sup> February	Yr5 Quarry Bank Mill trip
6 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Yr4 residential
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Valentines disco
17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Half term
6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents evening
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents evening
14 <sup>th</sup> March	Yr3 Roman Chester trip
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Red Nose Day
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Yr5 residential meeting
4 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of term Non-uniform day (Chocolate donations)