

February 2025 Newsletter



Welcome

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2025. The children have been excited and embraced their new themes with gusto and I am thrilled to see them all so keen and engaged.

Year 1 visited Staircase House in Stockport where they experienced what life would have been like in London at the time of the great fire. Year 5 went to Quarry Bank Mill in Styal to experience life as Victorian children working and living at the Mill. Both groups found the experiences interesting but prefer life in the 21st century!

Year 4 went on the first residential of the school year to The Tattenhall Centre. They have created some beautiful art work with wire and paper made to look like stained glass.

We had lots of fun at the school disco on Thursday, thanks to all the staff for volunteering and to all our families supporting the event and raising much needed funds for new technology in school.

I hope you all enjoy the week off for February half term and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 24th February.

Mrs Carvell

Catering News

We hope the children have been enjoying the new menu from Aspens and trying lots of lovely, freshly cooked food. The plan is to transition over to the Aspens payment and ordering portal after Easter. This will allow you to select which meals you would like for your child on each day.

We welcome your feedback on this important service so please drop us an email if you have any requests, ideas etc!

Fundraising

Thanks to everyone who came for a boogie at the Valentines disco. As usual the children had a blast and we raised a fantastic £1324.

We are working towards updating our aged IT infrastructure and all funds are very gratefully received.

We are excited to be developing our Reading Hub into a space that not only fosters a love of reading but also integrates technology to support learning across the curriculum. To achieve this, we are seeking 'Vernon Innovation Partners' to help purchase Chromebooks. This technology will be used to enhance research opportunities, student projects, and classroom initiatives. Additionally, this technology will be invaluable in supporting interventions and booster sessions offered by our teaching staff, further strengthening our commitment to personalised learning.

We are reaching out to both businesses and individuals who may be willing to become 'Vernon Innovation Partners'. The name of each sponsor will be displayed on the device they provide and will be formally recognised in our newsletter and on our school website. Not only will this demonstrate your generosity and commitment to our school community, but it will also inspire our students in their understanding of the 'World of Work', helping them to see the impact of technology and community support in education.

If you or your business are interested in supporting this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact kelly.watson@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk or reach out via the school office. Any level of support will be greatly appreciated and will directly benefit the students of Vernon Primary School.

Reception



In Reception we have been celebrating the Chinese New Year. We have learnt all about the animals that represent the different years, we have made Chinese lanterns and had a go at writing the numbers in Chinese. The children have loved the colours and music involved in this celebration. During PE we made a dance with our dragon's head that we decorated. Many of our families have even been to Manchester to watch the parade; they then shared photos with us all.



Year 1



This term, Year 1 have been busy exploring The Great Fire of London. We have been learning all about how the fire started, why it spread so quickly, and how London changed as a result. Our visit to Staircase House was a fantastic way to bring our learning to life, helping us to imagine what life was like in 1666. The children got the opportunity to dress up and take part in role play activities which they thoroughly enjoyed.

In Maths, the children have been working hard on place value to 20 as well as addition and subtractions. The children have been using different resources and strategies to help them solve problems and develop their number knowledge.

In DT, we have been busy planning our very own London buses! We explored how buses have developed and changed over time and the children are excited to design and start building their buses after the half term break.

Well done Year 1 for your fantastic enthusiasm and hard work in all your learning this half term!







Year 2



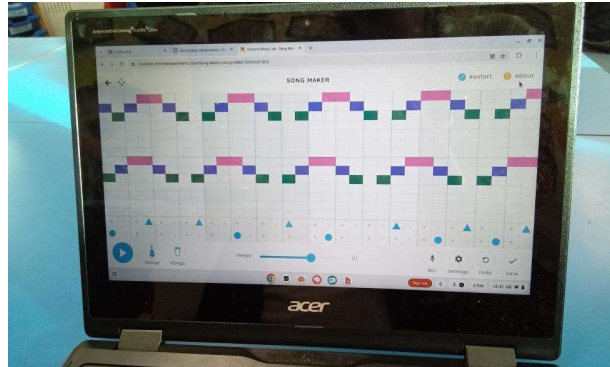
The children have made an incredible start to the Spring term, embracing their learning with enthusiasm and creativity! In English, they've loved diving into the narrative *The Lion Inside* and have produced some fantastic descriptive stories. They've also enjoyed exploring *Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion* and will soon be writing narrative diaries and letters inspired by well-known tales.

In History, our budding historians have been piecing together the key events in Nelson Mandela's life, exploring the big question: *Was it fair to send Nelson Mandela to prison?* This enquiry has sparked some thoughtful discussions and deeper understanding.

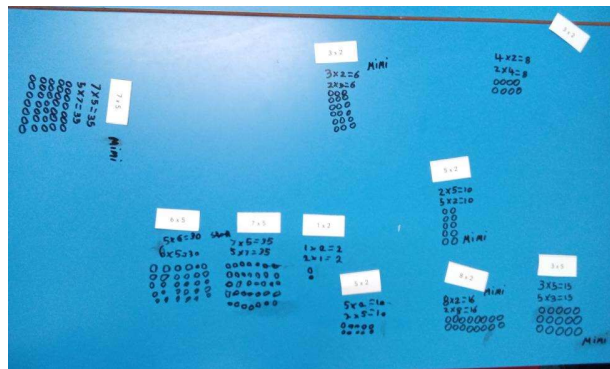
In Science, the children have been investigating the best growing conditions for seeds and bulbs. They've even explored the pros and cons of hydroponic growing—a fascinating way to observe how plants thrive without soil!



1 - Lion and Mouse art using watercolour and oil pastels



2 - Using the Chromebooks to create digital music inspired by the animals of Africa



3 - Drawing arrays in Maths

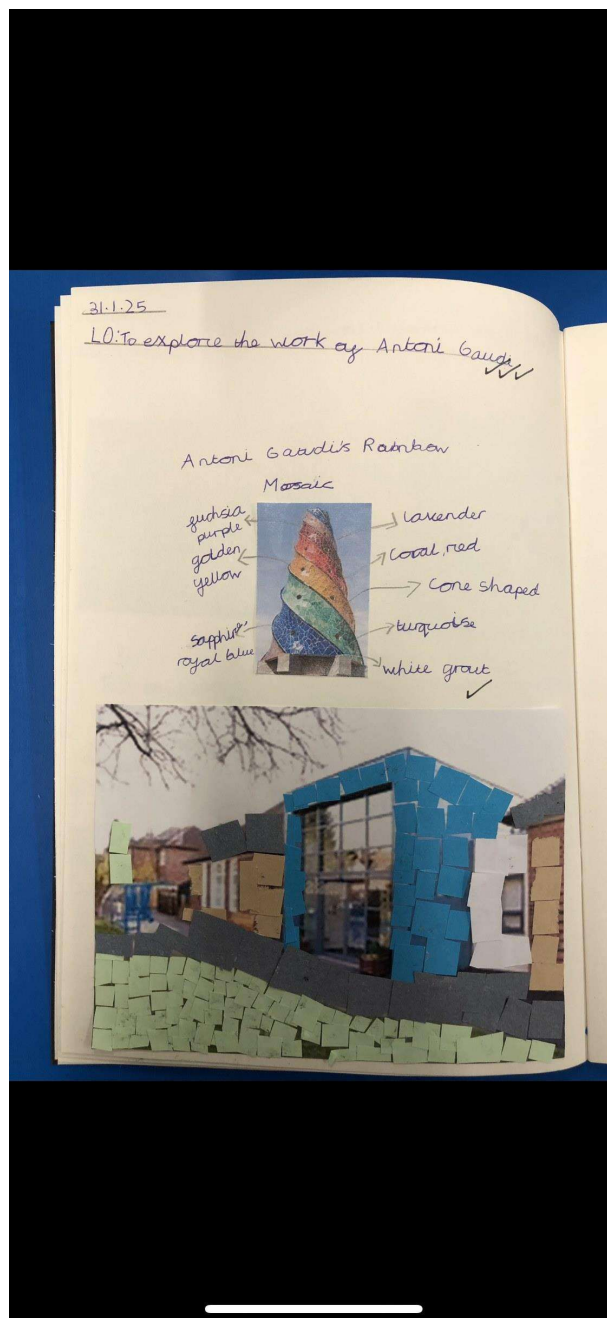
Year 3



This half term, the children have immersed themselves in our theme 'Chariots of Fire!' They have all approached the Spring term with fantastic levels of enthusiasm and commitment to their learning. In English, the children have been busy writing their historical narratives based on 'Escape from Pompeii'. The children found learning about the eruption of 'Mount Vesuvius' and the city of 'Pompeii' fascinating. They have thoroughly enjoyed creating Roman characters and settings which include vivid descriptions to reflect this period of time.

In Art & Design, the children have been exploring the work of 'Antoni Gaudi'. They have commented and explored in detail some of his most famous artwork such as his 'Rainbow Mosaic Chimney' in Barcelona. The children then used our school building to create their very own mosaic artwork using small pieces of coloured card.

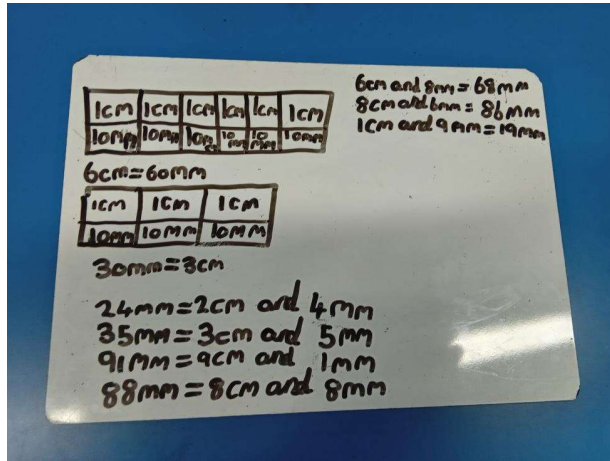
In PE, the children have been learning to play hockey! They have developed their skills of holding a hockey stick, passing the ball to an opponent and tackling safely - they have shown great sportsmanship and competitiveness!



4 - Mosaic artwork inspired by 'Antoni Gaudi' !



5 - Practicing our hockey passing skills in PE!



6 - Converting millimeters into centimeters & millimeters in Maths!

Year 4



Year 4 have had a brilliant start to the Spring Term under the exciting new theme "Born to be Wild!" Last week, the children embarked on a memorable residential trip to the Tattenhall Centre, where they participated in an engaging drama session that addressed the serious issue of deforestation. During this session, the students created short sketches that explored the threats to the rainforest and discussed practical actions we can take to protect our natural world.

They also enjoyed an art session inspired by Henri Rousseau, during which they crafted imaginative wire art rainforest foliage and designed relief prints based on their own leaf sketches. The centre staff were particularly impressed by the children's exemplary behavior and enthusiasm, setting a wonderful tone for the rest of the term and representing Vernon fantastically.

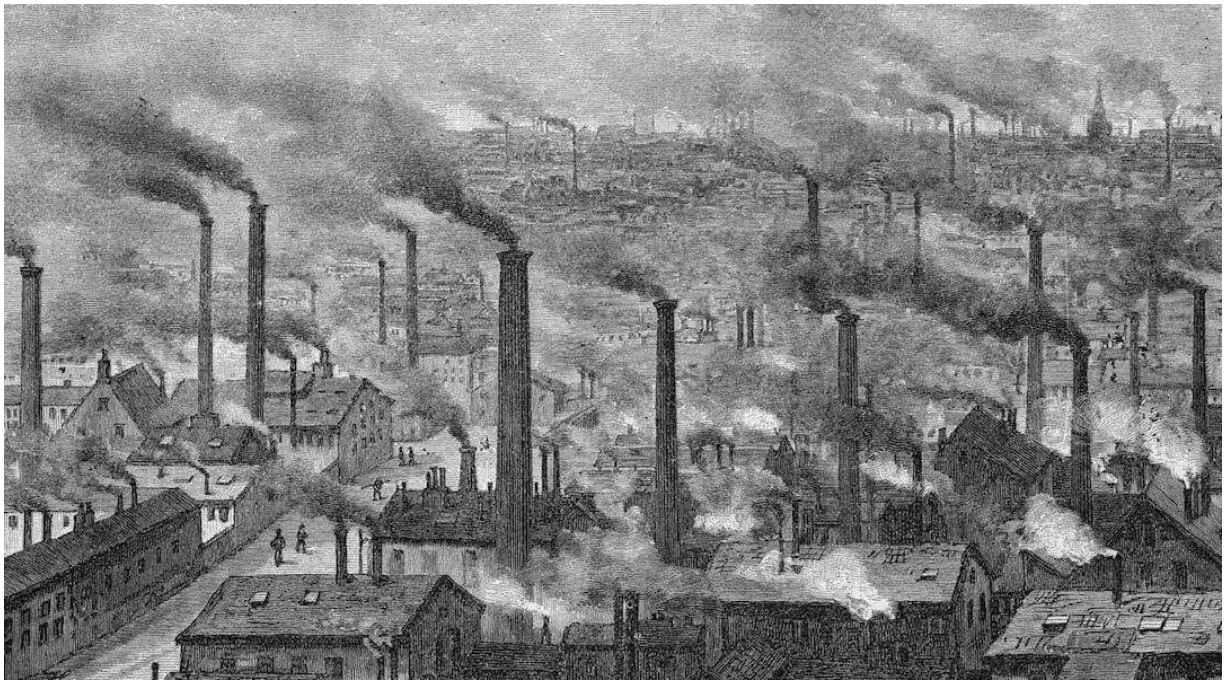






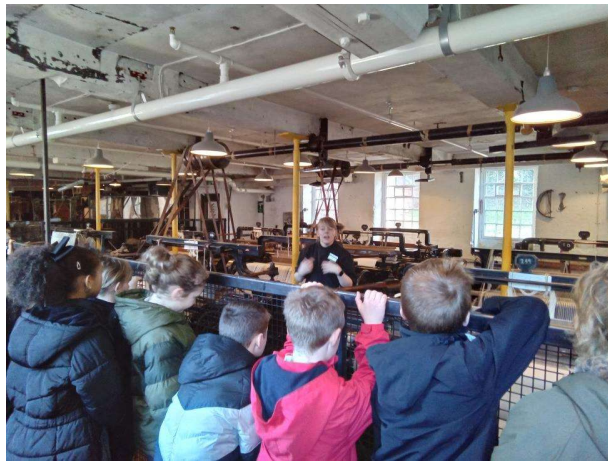


Year 5



What a fabulous start to the Spring Term we have had, diving into our exciting theme 'Inspiring Inventors'. The children have loved our recent visit to Styal Mill as we learnt about the lives of young children during the Industrial Revolution. Whilst visiting the Apprentice house and the Mill, the children tried out first hand the many chores and jobs the orphans would have completed during the 1800's.

Another highlight of the half term has been our Computing 'Filming' unit. The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring camera angles using the Chrome books and worked diligently in their groups to plan out and carefully record their videos. It was such a pleasure to see them draying on taught techniques as they taught us new skills. These ranged from hair tutorials to juggling.

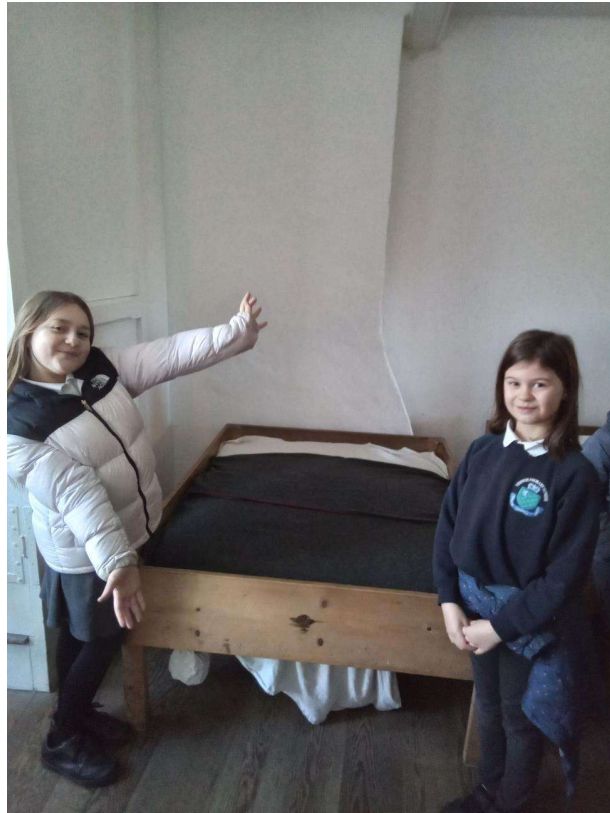


7 - The children saw the machines in full working order and heard how loud it would have been in the mill.

Sophie (5W) stated that she couldn't believe how noisy the machines were especially when they had 4 running at the same time.



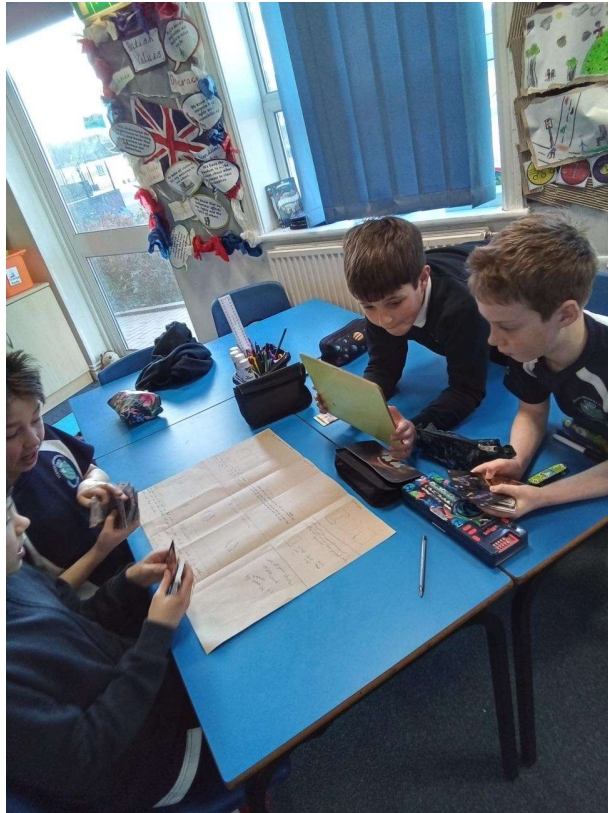
8 - Mrs Shawcross checked the children were ready for work before entering the Apprentice house.



9 - The children had to make their beds which were made of lumpy straw piles.



10 - Education was a little bit different to our school today. The children were grateful when they returned to Vernon.



11 - Rehearsals in full swing as the children follow their plans to capture the videos in computing.

Year 6



This half term Year 6 have enjoyed a 'Mock Morning' at Poynton High School where they took part in transition activities and met teaching staff. Navigating around the school using maps, they managed to find their way to the restaurant where they enjoyed a treat! We have also enjoyed a visit from Mr Morgan from Electricity North West who provided a fascinating insight to the 'World of Work'. Linking with our geography topic - 'Where does our energy come from?' the children were able to demonstrate their own knowledge by asking questions and making brilliant observations.



12 - Electricity North West- Future employees

Author Visit for Years 5 and 6





13 - Henry and Archie in Year 6 loved meeting Jacob and having their book signed!

Children in Years 5 and 6 had the most amazing 'five star' author, Jacob North, visit Vernon to talk about his new book, 'Ice Apprentice'. The talk was really interactive and we even took part in a quiz to find out which job we would get in 'Tundra' (the setting of the book). We had an amazing time learning about the novel and at one point, created our own new monster called 'Frogzilla'! Jacob North is the most inspiring author we have welcomed into school and we are so excited to read his book. His next adventure novel comes out in 2026.

Article written by Henry and Archie, Year 6

Spelling Bee



This term, children across KS2 took part in our 'Spelling Bee'. Pupils used their individual login on the learning platform 'Spelling Frame' to access personalised spelling games and tests, earning them points for their class teams. The winning classes were Mrs Hough's Year 4 team and Mrs Watson's Year 6 team...it was an extremely close competition! Both classes received a trophy and the spellers who topped the school leaderboard in KS2 received certificates and a coveted bee badge! The event has inspired pupils to engage more with learning spelling rules using the game-based platform 'spelling frame'. Well done to all the children who took part!

Sport



Dodgeball

A group of our Year 5 children had an exciting opportunity to attend a Dodgeball Festival at Macclesfield Academy, organised by School Games. They played a variety of games against other schools, demonstrating the skills they have been developing in their after-school club. It was fantastic to see them working together as a team, showing great sportsmanship and enthusiasm. A highlight of the event was the chance to design a brand-new rule to implement in the game! Everyone had a brilliant time, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts. Well done, Year 5!



Year 6 Shine at Manchester City Football Festival!

A group of our talented Year 6 children recently attended the Manchester City Football Festival, where they competed against a range of schools, showcasing their impressive skills and teamwork on the pitch. It was fantastic to see their dedication, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm throughout the tournament. Well done to everyone who took part! ⚽



14 - Year 6 Footballers



15 - Year 5 footballers

An incredible win for the Year 5 footballers!

On Friday 7th February, the Year 5 boys team visited Manchester City's academy to play in a football tournament and what a morning they had. Winning every group game, they ploughed through to the quarter finals then gained their well deserved place in the semi's after a tense round of penalties.

They boys played as a fantastic team and were brilliant sportsman. They went on to win the tournament and should be incredibly proud of their achievements. Well done to everyone who took part.



16 - What fantastic team they were as they supported each other during the tense round of penalties.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The School Council would like to support Red Nose Day on Friday 21st March. This year, the event will focus on supporting those in need during the current living crisis, focusing on issues like lack of food and homelessness.

In the spirit of 'doing something funny for money' children are invited to come dressed to make others laugh or smile. They can wear funny clothes, wear red or wear fancy dress to spread as much laughter and joy around the school as we can.

As part of the day, we would like to challenge the children to do one small thing to help a friend, teacher or someone they know. We hope that by the end of the day all our 'little changes' will have made a huge difference.



Cheshire East SEND Partnership

Cheshire East SEND Partnership Local Offer Marketplace



We are pleased to bring together services from across the SEND partnership to provide advice to parents of children with additional needs. This drop-in will allow you to gain an initial understanding of what those services offer and then request more support at a future date.

Time with each practitioner will be limited to 10 minutes per family at this 'getting advice' event so please arrive early to avoid disappointment. Last entry will be at 30 minutes before closing.



Poynton Library
Park Lane, Poynton
SK12 1RB

Tuesday 11th February
4pm-6pm

Cheshire East Chatters (Speech and Language)
CE SEND Team
Just Drop In
Time to Talk
CE Youth Support Service

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.

Sign up to support our school¹



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, bracelets or hoop earrings 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.

¹<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/cause-data/5df8a6fa-b7fa-4d45-9de4-b5ba460f043f/leaflets/69e46f80-491d-49a9-96d5-b4f5cc58eff7/how-it-works - digital.pdf?updated=638416055884900000>

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.com², 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.uk³

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@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk⁴

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.

²<https://www.mynametags.com>

³<mailto:admin@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk>

⁴<mailto:absence@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk>

After school clubs



17 - [Click here to book 8BY8](#)⁵

Vernon Primary School | Key Stage 2

ROBOT RIVALRY Afterschool Club

Work in teams to code a robot, completing a range of challenges such as; robot art, cops and robbers car chase, robot racing, automated / self driving car challenge and robot maze solver! This workshop uses visual coding skills as well as introducing you to python programming which is actually used by people who code for a job when they're older. A superb workshop to get your child to understand coding and the future possibilities this awesome skill has for them.



DATES :
24th February - 31st March
Every Monday!

TIME :
3:15pm - 4:15pm

PRICE :
6 WEEKS OF FUN FOR JUST £42! ↘

BOOK HERE : <https://portal.jamcoding.franscape.io/class-overview/4122>

STREET DANCE CLUB KS2

Commencing
Tuesday 7th January- Tuesday 1st April
3:15-4:15
£5 per session
£60 for the whole term
YR 3-YR 6

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO SIGN UP PLEASE
EMAIL
KORTNIERSSDANCE@HOTMAIL.COM

⁵<https://8by8football.classforkids.io/?venueName=Vernon Primary School>

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
6 th March	World Book Day
11 th March	Parents evening
13 th March	Parents evening
14 th March	Yr3 Roman Chester trip
21 st March	Red Nose Day
28 th March	Yr5 residential meeting
4 th April	Last day of term
	Non-uniform day (Chocolate donations)
22 nd April	Back to school – Summer term