

# Vermont News 26 June 2026

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

I hope everyone has managed to keep cool during this week's extreme heat!

It is never an easy decision to close the school, but the safety and wellbeing of our children and staff will always be our highest priority. Thank you for your understanding and support during this exceptional weather.

Alongside the heatwave, we also welcomed Ofsted for a monitoring visit this week. Despite the challenging conditions, our children were fantastic. They represented our school brilliantly, responding confidently and respectfully to the inspector, and we could not be prouder of how they conducted themselves.

Last Friday, our children showed wonderful teamwork by helping us move all of the tables and chairs out of the school in preparation for our new classroom furniture. Then, bright and early on Monday morning, our staff worked alongside the delivery team to unload and move the new furniture into each classroom. It has been a real team effort, and we are delighted that our children now have the inspiring learning spaces they truly deserve.

We are excited to see them enjoy these new environments as they continue their learning journey.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, If you have any thoughts, concerns, or ideas, please don't hesitate to share them with us at [tellus@vermontschool.co.uk](mailto:tellus@vermontschool.co.uk).

**With best wishes,**

Kelly & The Vermont Team

Our wonderful children helped us move the old furniture out





## The New Furniture arrived

The staff team got to school extra early on Monday morning to help move all the new furniture into classrooms ready for our children to arrive.



















## Reminders

### Some key reminders:

- Children's clothes should all be clearly labeled with their name so they can be returned to the right child if removed
- Children should refrain from bringing personal toys into school. This is because we do not want them getting lost or broken as this causes a lot of upset. Thank you.
- Children should bring plastic water bottles only, metal water bottles are not permitted in school. Thank you.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER**  
**FOR PARENTS/CARERS**

**NO ITEMS FROM HOME**  
ARE TO BE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL.

We have seen another increase in Lego figures, play sets and other toys coming into the classroom.

! These items are causing increased distraction and dysregulation in the classroom.

**NO TOYS OR PERSONAL ITEMS FROM HOME SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL.**

Any items brought in will be removed and returned at the end of the day.

**WE DO NOT WANT CHILDREN UPSET IF ITEMS GET BROKEN.**

GLASS ITEMS ARE STRICTLY NOT PERMITTED IN SCHOOL UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

We really need your support with this so we can maintain a calm, safe and focused learning environment for everyone.

**★ THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION! ★**

## INSET and key dates for this year

- 13th July 2026 - Year 6 Leavers Assembly (more details will follow)

- 16th July 2026 - Sports day
- 17th July 2026 - Summer Fayre (more details will follow)
- 20th, 21st and 22nd July 2026 - INSET days

## Important dates September 2026 -July 2027

### INSET days

- 1st September 2026
- 29th January 2027
- 25th June 2027
- 19th, 20th and 21st July 2027

### Structured conversation days

- 2nd and 3rd September 2026
- 12th April 2027

## Our Learning

### English - Reading

*A Kind of Spark* follows Addie, a determined girl who wants her community to better understand autism and learn from mistakes made in the past. Through Addie's journey, pupils will explore themes of acceptance, courage, empathy, and standing up for what is right.

*Planet Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet* is a funny and heartwarming story about Omar, a boy whose imagination sometimes gets him into tricky situations! As Omar settles into a new school, the story explores friendship, family life, and the importance of being yourself, with lots of humour along the way.

We are excited to share these stories with the children through reading, discussion, writing, and creative activities across the half term.

## RSE (Relationships and Sex Education)



June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

### RSE Curriculum

As part of our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education curriculum, pupils at Vermont School will be taking part in age-appropriate Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) lessons during this half term.

These lessons are designed to support pupils' personal development, wellbeing and understanding of healthy relationships in a safe, supportive and respectful environment. The content taught will always be appropriate to the age, developmental stage and individual needs of the children within each class.

Topics may include:

- Friendships and positive relationships
- Respect, kindness and personal boundaries
- Keeping safe online and offline
- Families and different types of relationships
- Growing up and understanding changes to the body (where age appropriate)

Our RSE curriculum is delivered in line with the Department for Education guidance and is fully aligned with our school PSHE and RSE policies, which can be found on the school website.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the curriculum further, please contact the school office and a member of staff will be happy to support you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Donna Vokes  
PSHE Lead

## Art

Both KS1 and KS2 Art will focus on the work of Stephen Wiltshire and the theme of *Patterns in the City*.

These units explore observation, drawing, architecture, pattern, and perspective through the study of Wiltshire's detailed cityscape artwork. Pupils will learn about Stephen Wiltshire as an autistic artist and explore how his unique strengths and memory skills influence his work, providing meaningful opportunities to celebrate neurodiversity, creativity, and individuality.

Across the unit, pupils will:

- explore buildings, shapes, and patterns in the environment
- develop observational drawing skills
- experiment with perspective and detail
- create their own cityscape artwork inspired by Wiltshire
- reflect on place, community, and identity through art

**KS1 will focus on:**

- identifying shapes and patterns in buildings
- exploring repeating patterns in cities
- developing simple observational drawing skills
- experimenting with line, detail, and simple perspective
- creating their own cityscape artwork inspired by local environments

The emphasis in KS1 is on exploration, noticing details, and building confidence in mark-making and drawing through practical and engaging activities.

**KS2 will build on these skills through:**

- more detailed observational drawing
- one-point perspective
- architectural sketching
- panoramic cityscapes
- refining drawings with precision and detail

## Enrichment Activities

**Enrichment**

All children at Vermont take part in Enrichment. This is part of our core curriculum offer. We rotate the enrichment activities every half term so that classes get a wide a varied curriculum offer. Enrichment is part of the normal school day and are carefully planned to help children build confidence, manage emotions, develop communication skills, and engage with learning. These activities also help meet the support set out in a child's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

## Health and Wellbeing

We have introduced a new snack menu in-line with our mission to be a Healthy High 5 School. These are the snacks we will provide to all children every day.

snack Menu	
WEEK ONE	WEEK TWO
<b>Monday:</b> AM – banana and crackers	<b>Monday:</b> AM – grapes and breadsticks
<b>Tuesday:</b> AM – apple and breadsticks PM – carrot sticks and crumpet	<b>Tuesday:</b> AM – bell pepper and crackers PM – strawberries, orange and yoghurt
<b>Wednesday:</b> AM – pear and crackers PM – bell pepper and cheesesliders	<b>Wednesday:</b> AM – raisins and breadsticks PM – celery and cheese sliders
<b>Thursday:</b> AM – cucumber and breadsticks PM – strawberries, orange and yoghurt	<b>Thursday:</b> AM – carrot and crackers PM – banana and crumpet
<b>Friday:</b> AM – raisins and crackers PM – celery sticks, and beans on toast	<b>Friday:</b> AM – pear and breadsticks PM – tomato pasta and cucumber



### **The dates and contacts bit**

The best way to speak to us about your child:

If you would like to talk about your child's learning please use the home school communication book. Our phone lines are open from 08:30 to 16:00 Monday to Thursday and until 15:30 on a Friday and we commit to responding to your calls and emails within 2 working days.

If you have any concerns, thoughts, ideas, please share them with us at [tellus@vermontschool.co.uk](mailto:tellus@vermontschool.co.uk).

## Road Safety

We would like to kindly remind everyone to please drive slowly and carefully in the school car park and on the surrounding roads. The speed limit is 5mph.

These areas can become very busy with children, families, and staff moving about, and taking a little extra care helps keep everyone safe. We appreciate your patience, awareness, and cooperation in following speed limits and being mindful of pedestrians at all times.

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe environment for our whole school community.

## Online gaming and You Tube

We would like to draw parents' and carers' attention to some recent online trends that may appear child-friendly at first glance but contain themes that are not suitable for younger audiences.

One example is The Amazing Digital Circus, a popular animated series currently circulating on platforms such as YouTube. While its bright visuals and cartoon style may appeal to children, the content includes darker psychological themes, unsettling imagery, and moments of distress that are more appropriate for older viewers. It is not specifically designed for young children, and unsupervised viewing may lead to confusion or anxiety.

In addition, a new trend within the game Minecraft has emerged, often referred to as "Chinese water torture." Despite the name sounding abstract or historical, this trend involves players creating scenarios intended to simulate distress or discomfort. These themes can be inappropriate and may expose children to ideas or situations that are not age-appropriate.

We encourage all parents and carers to remain vigilant about the content children are accessing online. Many platforms use algorithms that may recommend videos or trends without considering a child's age or sensitivity. Taking time to review, discuss, and guide children's digital experiences can help ensure they are engaging with safe and appropriate material.

If you have any concerns, consider exploring parental controls, setting viewing boundaries, and having open conversations with children about what they encounter online.

## Staying safe online

### General Online Use:

When using the internet, primary-aged children should be careful not to share personal information such as their full name, address, school, or passwords. They should only visit

websites that are suitable for their age and check with a trusted adult if they are unsure about something. It's important to remember that not everything online is true, so they should question what they see and ask for help if something seems confusing. Children should also tell an adult straight away if anything online makes them feel worried, scared, or uncomfortable, and always use strong passwords to keep their accounts safe.

### **Social Media Platforms:**

We encourage families to restrict the use of social media, however, if children do use social media, children should be encouraged to only connect with people they know in real life and avoid accepting friend requests from strangers. They need to think carefully before posting photos, videos, or comments, as these can be seen by others and may be difficult to remove later. Using privacy settings can help control who sees their content, and it's important to be kind and respectful when interacting with others online. If someone says or does something upsetting, children should not respond but instead block the person and report it, and always tell a trusted adult about what has happened.