

# Vermont News 10 July 2026

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

As we coming close to the end of another fantastic school year, I would like to say how incredibly proud we are of all of our children. This week has been exceptionally hot, and the temperatures in our classrooms have been challenging at times. Despite this, the children have shown great resilience, maturity and positivity. Staff have worked hard to keep classrooms as cool and comfortable as possible, ensuring everyone stayed well hydrated and took regular opportunities to cool down.

We have a very exciting final week ahead, with our Year 6 Leavers' Assembly, Sports Day and our eagerly anticipated Summer Fayre. These events are always a wonderful way to celebrate the achievements of our pupils and end the academic year together as a school community.

Please refer to the letter sent last week for full details of all upcoming events. We look forward to seeing many of you there and celebrating the end of another successful year at Vermont School.

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

## Keeping cool at lunchtime



## 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! ★**

## Headteacher's Award



**Caleb C** - Turtles - For amazing progress in reading. Well done, we are so proud of you!

&

**Eddie H** - Turtles - For setting a great example to his peers and being a role model for behaviour. Well done, we are so proud of you!

## Attendance



Each week we celebrate attendance. Our target is 93%

Our whole school attendance this week was 88%

Our class smashing attendance targets this week are: Turtles

### **Attendance HERO (Here Everyday Ready On Time)**

Turtles are our HERO class this week! They will enjoy cakes today to celebrate their attendance. Well done!

You will receive an email every **Friday** with your child's **attendance percentage**. This is to help keep you informed and up to date on your child's attendance throughout the school year.

This year, we are placing a strong focus on attendance, as we know how important it is for every child's learning, progress, and wellbeing. Please know that our Attendance Lead, **Sian**, is here to

offer support and guidance if you have any questions or concerns about your child's attendance.

## **Year 6 Leavers Assembly - Monday 13th July at 2:15pm**

Parents and carers of our Year 6 children are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate their achievements and wish them every success as they move on to the next stage of their education.

Year 6 pupils will remain in school until the assembly and will leave with their parent or carer at the end of the event. If you are unable to attend the assembly and your child will need to travel home using their usual transport arrangements, please let the school know as soon as possible so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

## **INSET and key dates for this year**

- 13th July 2026 - Year 6 Leavers Assembly
- 16th July 2026 - Sports day
- 17th July 2026 - Summer Fayre
- 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:**

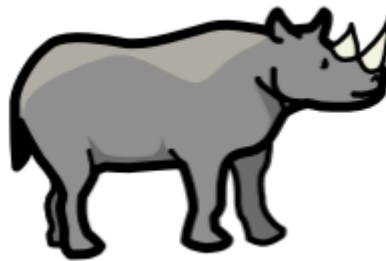
- more detailed observational drawing
- one-point perspective
- architectural sketching
- panoramic cityscapes
- refining drawings with precision and detail

## 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).

### Rhinos



What a brilliant Term it has been in Rhinos Class!

The children have worked incredibly hard despite the hot weather, showing fantastic resilience and remembering to stay hydrated throughout the day. We are very proud of the effort they have all put into their learning.

In English, the class has continued exploring *Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet*. Using the story as inspiration, the children have been planning and writing newspaper reports based on the events in the book. They have worked hard to include exciting headlines, key facts and quotes, and we can't wait to read their finished reports.

Our weekly visits to Pinkmead Farm continue to be a favourite part of the week. The children have been caring for the horses, learning about their daily routines and developing their confidence while working outdoors.

In Art, the children have been inspired by the incredible artist Stephen Wiltshire. They have carefully studied his detailed cityscape drawings before creating some magnificent pieces of artwork of their own. Their creativity and attention to detail have been fantastic. Our weekly Saints Foundation session with Becky was full of energy and fun.

The children enjoyed a competitive game of dodgeball, showing excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout. A special mention goes to Rio, who took on the role of photographer for the session and captured some fantastic action shots.

One of the biggest highlights of the week came when Freddie discovered a toad! Our unexpected visitor spent the day with Rhinos while the children enjoyed observing him and learning about his habitat. Don't worry, he was safely returned to where he was found at the end of the day.

Well done, Rhinos, for another fantastic week. Keep up the brilliant work, we're nearly at the summer holidays!













## Pastoral

This week in Pastoral, the children have had lots of fun playing with Zola on the playground and out on the field, especially before the weather became too warm. It has been lovely to see so much laughter, energy, and enjoyment during these special moments together. We have also celebrated a few birthdays, which brought even more excitement to the week and gave us the chance to share in some happy celebrations together







## City Catering Newsletter

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/S9kAUOODaqOo2h7m?ref=email>

## 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   |
| <p><b>Monday:</b><br/>AM – banana and crackers</p>  | <p><b>Monday:</b><br/>AM – grapes and breadsticks</p>  |
| <p><b>Tuesday:</b><br/>AM – apple and breadsticks<br/>PM – carrot sticks and crumpet</p>            | <p><b>Tuesday:</b><br/>AM – bell pepper and crackers<br/>PM – strawberries, orange and yoghurt</p> |
| <p><b>Wednesday:</b><br/>AM – pear and crackers<br/>PM – bell pepper and cheeseliders</p>           | <p><b>Wednesday:</b><br/>AM – raisins and breadsticks<br/>PM – celery and cheese sliders</p>       |
| <p><b>Thursday:</b><br/>AM – cucumber and breadsticks<br/>PM – strawberries, orange and yoghurt</p> | <p><b>Thursday:</b><br/>AM – carrot and crackers<br/>PM – banana and crumpet</p>                   |
| <p><b>Friday:</b><br/>AM – raisins and crackers<br/>PM – celery sticks, and beans on toast</p>      | <p><b>Friday:</b><br/>AM – pear and breadsticks<br/>PM – tomato pasta and cucumber</p>             |



### **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.

## News from around the city

# DISCOUNTED BIG DAYS OUT

Disclaimer - these are the price for non members



- 19th July & 9th Aug | Thorpe Park | £25
- 1st Aug | Paultons Park | £37
- 2nd Aug | Legoland | £25
- 3rd Aug | Cadbury's World | £22
- 4th Aug | Marwell Zoo | £19 - £22
- 5th & 13th Aug | 4 Kingdoms | £9.50
- 6th & 27th Aug | Finkley Down Farm | £12
- 10th Aug | Butlins Bognor Regis | £20
- 15th Aug | Alton Towers | £25
- 16th Aug | Chessington | £27

To book, please email  
[activities@spotlightuk.org](mailto:activities@spotlightuk.org)

[www.spotlightuk.org](http://www.spotlightuk.org) Reg Charity 1129258



## Discounted Activities Summer Holidays

- 21st July | Bowling Fareham | 6pm | £3.50
- 24th July | Bowling Eastleigh | 6pm | £3.50
- 25th July - Air Extreme Havant - 2pm - £4.50
- 26th July | High Score Southampton | 1pm | 2pm | 3pm | £5
- 30th July | Rock Up Climbing Fareham | 6pm | £6.50
- 4th Aug | Ice Skating Gosport | 11:30am | £6.50
- 9th Aug | High Score Southampton | 1pm | 2pm | 3pm | £5
- 12th Aug | Rock Up Climbing Fareham | 6pm | £6.50
- 13th Aug | Bowling Portsmouth | 6pm | £3.50
- 14th Aug | Romsey Family Swim | 2pm | £2.50 - £6.50
- 19th Aug | Bowling Eastleigh | 6pm | £3.50
- 20th Aug | Ninja Warrior Southampton | 1pm | £6.50
- 25th Aug | Romsey Family Swim | 1pm | £2.50 - £6.50
- 26th Aug | Ninja Warrior Southampton | 1pm | £6.50

*All discounted prices are subsidised by Spotlight UK*



For more details please email [activities@spotlightuk.org](mailto:activities@spotlightuk.org)

# Summer Holiday ACTIVITIES

**AT SOUTHAMPTON  
MUSEUMS AND GALLERY**

From £8 per activity

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>ART FOR ALL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fri 24 Jul   <b>Print a Pangolin and More</b> (7+)</li> <li>Tue 28 Jul   <b>Paint with Palette Knives</b> (7+)</li> <li>Mon 27 Jul   <b>Fossil Plaster Casting</b> (7+)</li> <li>Tue 28 Jul   <b>Shrinkable Tudor Portraits</b> (7+)</li> <li>Wed 29 Jul   <b>Gruffalo Clay</b> (4+)</li> <li>Thu 30 Jul   <b>Summer Sun Prints</b> (all ages)</li> <li>Fri 31 Jul   <b>Fossil Plaster Casting</b> (7+)</li> <li>Tue 4, Wed 5 Aug   <b>Brilliant Beach Bags</b></li> <li>Mon 10 Aug   <b>Clay Capybaras</b> (7+)</li> <li>Tue 11 Aug   <b>Surrealism Starts Here</b> (7+)</li> <li>Wed 12 Aug   <b>Animal Magic Monoprinting</b> (7+)</li> <li>Mon 17 Aug   <b>Bugs in Boxes</b> (7+)</li> <li>Tue 18 Aug   <b>Impressionism Starts Here</b> (7+)</li> <li>Wed 19 Aug   <b>Greek Pottery Pots</b> (7+)</li> <li>Mon 24 Aug   <b>Summer Sun Prints</b> (all ages)</li> <li>Tue 25 Aug   <b>Highland Cows in Clay</b> (7+)</li> <li>Wed 26 Aug   <b>Pencil Case Printing</b> (7+)</li> <li>Thu 27 Aug   <b>Pet Portrait Printing</b> (7+)</li> <li>Fri 28 Aug   <b>Dino Drawing and Printing</b> (7+)</li> </ul> | <p><b>HANDS ON HISTORY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thu 25 Jul   <b>Potty Prehistory</b> (7+)</li> <li>Mon 27 Jul   <b>Knight School</b> (7+)</li> <li>Mon 3 Aug   <b>Shiver Me Timbers</b> (7+)</li> <li>Tue 4 Aug   <b>The Hidden History of Harry Potter</b> (7+)</li> <li>Fri 7 Aug   <b>Discover Titanic</b> (7+)</li> <li>Fri 14 Aug   <b>Soaring Spittfires</b> (7+)</li> <li>Thu 20 Aug   <b>Great Fire of London</b> (7+)</li> <li>Fri 21 Aug   <b>Awesome Egyptians</b> (7+)</li> </ul> <p><b>TOURS FOR ALL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thu 6 Aug   <b>Secrets of Southampton Castle</b> (7+)</li> <li>Thu 13 Aug   <b>Titanic Walking Tour</b> (7+)</li> <li>Tue 18 Aug   <b>Roman Southampton Walking Tour</b> (7+)</li> </ul> <p><b>TODDLER TIME</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thu 30 Jul   <b>Delightful Dinosaurs</b> (under 4s &amp; friends)</li> <li>Thu 20 Aug   <b>Gorgeous Birds</b> (under 4s &amp; friends)</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

BOOK YOUR SUMMER ADVENTURE TODAY

For times, prices and locations visit our venue websites  
[seacitymuseum.co.uk](http://seacitymuseum.co.uk) | [southamptoncityartgallery.com](http://southamptoncityartgallery.com) | [tudorhouseandgarden.com](http://tudorhouseandgarden.com)





# This week at Re:Minds 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July

Please email [info@reminds.org.uk](mailto:info@reminds.org.uk) to book in for advice clinics. No need to book for a support group, just check the events section of our Facebook group

With thanks to:



## CAMHS Evening Advice Clinic

5pm, Monday 6th July

**About the Clinic**  
Book a private, 10-minute virtual appointment to speak with a clinician about any issues covered by CAMHS. This clinic is led by the **Southeastern Specialist CAMHS service** and is open to **all Re:Minds members** seeking general advice.

To book your advice slot, please email: [info@reminds.org.uk](mailto:info@reminds.org.uk)

## Eating Disorder Evening Advice Clinic

5pm, Monday 6th July

**About the Clinic**  
Book a private, 10-minute virtual appointment to speak with a general clinician from the CAMHS Eating Disorder Team to discuss any problems:  
• Eating disorders • Binge eating • Weight concerns  
• Changes in eating habits, attitude towards food, weight or body image  
• Increased or decreased activity levels  
• Anxiety that involves eating  
• Physical health concerns, body image or appearance  
• Single eating or secretive eating  
• Any other concerns related to eating

To book your advice slot, please email: [info@reminds.org.uk](mailto:info@reminds.org.uk)

## Virtual Support Group

For parents and carers of children who are neurodivergent and/or have mental health needs.

6:30pm Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July

This is a chance to get advice, support and meet others who understand what you are going through from the comfort of your own home. If you would like some individual advice we can use a breakout room to speak to you during the meeting. **The zoom link will be shared in the events section of our Facebook group, or emailed on request.**

## Shoring Support Group

For parents and carers of children who are neurodivergent and/or have mental health needs. Join us for a support group that session on with the **Southeastern Health Network**. A safe, welcoming space to connect with other parents and carers and share other experiences, share support and take some time for yourself! An opportunity and opportunity to meet others who understand and share with you. **Free of charge** and open to all Re:Minds staff with family experience. There will be drinks.

Art and crafts • Games • Refreshments

No booking needed. No cost. Just drop in!

10-12, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July  
Salvation Army, 11 North East Road, Dover, Kent, TN39 5JF

## Northam Support Group

For parents and carers of children who are neurodivergent and/or have mental health needs.

10-12 Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July

A safe, welcoming space to connect with other parents and carers who share similar experiences. Meet others who understand, and get advice and support from our trained staff. **Free of charge** and open to all Re:Minds staff with family experience. There will be drinks. **Free of charge** and open to all Re:Minds staff with family experience. There will be drinks.