

VERUNews

EDITION 006



Headteacher Highlights

We have enjoyed a positive start to the new academic year at Verulam, with our new Year 7s and 12s settling in brilliantly. It was fantastic to see over 350 families attend our recent Open Evening, alongside popular morning tours that allowed prospective families to see our learning community in action. Visitors can also now view our newly launched Verulam promotional film, which is live on the school website.

Opportunities beyond the classroom are already thriving. On Wednesday 16th September, we hosted our inaugural Year 7 Clubs Fayre. The hall was buzzing as staff, Sixth Formers, and older pupils introduced our newest cohort to an array of extra-curricular options, from sports, choir, and brass bands to Byte Club, Chess, Eco, Warhammer, Debate, STEM and a popular D&D group. The Sports calendar is full of events, from cross country to badminton and early success in Year 8 football. All

the information on sports and extra-curricular clubs is on the school website and has been emailed out.

Just to draw your attention to the parent Information Evenings that are running this half term. We have already welcomed Year 7 for a social gathering and Years 12 and 11 to support families with success at GCSE and A-level. A reminder of the dates is attached to this newsletter.

Finally, thanks to the Verulam PTFA for their continued support. New volunteers are always welcome with information on how to sign up on our website [here](#). A reminder of the Fireworks Spectacular on Friday 23rd October at 7:30pm at our Sandpit Lane playing fields. This is a quality event that also raises much needed funds for the school. Please see the flyer later in the newsletter for booking details.

Fergal Moane, Headteacher

Fortnightly Focus

Click  for Term Dates

- 28 Sep – Open Morning Tour
- 28 Sep – FEED Collection starts
- 29 Sep – Open Morning Tour
- 29 Sep – Geography Revision Evening Main Hall 7pm
- 01 Oct – Black History month begins and visit by author Nathaniel Lessore
- 01 Oct – Year 13 Geography Field Trip
- 01 Oct – Year 10 Information Evening
- 02 Oct – Year 13 Geography Field Trip
- 07 Oct – Year 9 Information Evening

VERUNews

A resounding success: Verulam welcomes prospective families at Open Evening

Energy and enthusiasm filled the corridors during our recent Open Evening, making it one of our most vibrant events of the school calendar. We were delighted to welcome over 330 families through our doors: visitors explored our classrooms and teaching areas, spoke with teaching staff, support staff and experienced the values of Excellence, Character and Respect that sit at the heart of our community.

A central highlight was the Headteacher's presentation. To accommodate the high demand and ensure every family could attend, Headteacher Mr Moane gave three packed talks across the evening. He shared our vision for the school, outlining our strong academic standards, balanced curriculum and commitment to helping every student thrive and 'find their tribe'.

Our students were the absolute highlight of the night. Over 250 boys and Sixth Formers gave up their evening to help out, working in subject departments or guiding families around the site. Their confidence, enthusiasm and pride in Verulam gave prospective parents and students a genuine look at what school life here is really like.

Thank you to everyone who joined us, to our staff for putting on such brilliant subject displays and above all to our student volunteers for representing the school so brilliantly.

Miss G Perry, Deputy Headteacher



Stay in Touch

- ✖ verulamschool.co.uk
- ✉ admin@verulam.aetrust.uk
- ☎ 01727 766100
- 📍 Brampton Road, St Albans
Hertfordshire, AL1 4PR

Please remember.....

IF ABSENT please contact:

- ✉ absence@verulam.aetrust.uk
- ☎ 01727 754101

VERUFocus

Year 10 GCSE Drama Trip

The first theatre trip of the academic year took place last night, as the new Year 10 GCSE group headed off to the Abbey Theatre in St Albans to see 'Home, I'm Darling', a play by the acclaimed playwright Laura Wade, performed by the Company of Ten.

The students will be writing a review of the play as part of their GCSE course. Verulam School is one of the few schools in the Trust that insists on multiple trips to live performances

rather than relying on recorded material.

Mr Moseley, Head of Drama



VERUSport

Sporting News

What a fantastic and busy start to the term for the PE Department!

Our sports teams have hit the ground running with some brilliant early-season results:



- Year 7 Football: Kicked off their campaign in style with a decisive 4-0 win against Leventhorpe.
- Year 8 Football: Secured a hard-fought 4-2 victory over Monk's Walk.
- Year 9 Basketball: Continued their fantastic unbeaten run with a great win against KWS.
- Cross Country: Delivered strong, determined performances in the latest league fixtures.
- Swimming: A huge well done to our Year 8 swimmers Callum, Max, Fionn and Jacob put in some fantastic performances against strong competition at the Regional Qualifiers for the English Schools Team Championships!

Beyond competitive matches, our student Rugby Leaders did a brilliant job assisting with local primary school festivals, showcasing exceptional leadership and sportsmanship.

Extra-curricular clubs have been buzzing, but our Lower School Rugby Club is looking for more players to get involved. Training takes place every Monday on-site—whether you are a seasoned player or completely new to the game, all are welcome to come along and give it a go!

Mr Errington, Director of Sport



Residential Reminders

Recently parents/carers were emailed a list of trips planned for this academic year. This list is not exhaustive as day trips are added throughout the year but the residential trips are planned and communications will be sent to the relevant year groups.

Confirmed residential trips are shown below.

Upcoming residential trip reminders:

- 11 & 12 Oct - Yr 11 DofE Bronze Expedition*

Further ahead:

- 19 Feb - Geography Field Trip Iceland*
- 28 Jun - Yr 12 New York All Humanities Trip
- 28 Jun - Barcelona Football Trip

* some payments are still outstanding

VERUFocus

Parenting Under Pressure

Step, a school charity who are regulars at Verulam, are hosting an evening of strategies and useful tools to help us support our young people as they navigate their exam season.

The evening will be led in partnership with Claire Banham the founder of Haven Hope (a charity that provides support for young people, with the aim of reducing the life limiting effects of problematic anxiety).

So that we can support our young people better, we will be looking to understand more about the teenage brain and how stress can affect them.

We will cover topics like how to spot burnout, battling our own fears and using a coaching approach with our teens to get the best out of them.



Parenting Under Pressure Exam-Season Survival Guide

An evening of strategies and useful tools to help us support our young people as they navigate their exam season.

- Thurs, 22nd Oct
- Starts 7.30 pm
- Refreshments from 7.15pm
- Verso Vineyard Church, St Albans AL1 5UG

We'll explore:

- Practical parenting techniques ✓
- Insight into the teenage brain ✓
- Stress management tools ✓

Register Today!

stephanieestepschoolswork.org.uk

Suggested Donation £5 - on the door

Hopefully you will come away from the evening having gained a different perspective with lots of new ideas to try at home to keep everyone calm throughout their exams, so that they can thrive.

Mr Holding, Lead Practitioner, Pastoral & Safeguarding

FOLLOW US



You will also find lots of information on our website:



VERUFocus

Year 7 Clubs Fayre

On Wednesday 16th September Verulam held our inaugural Clubs Fayre for our new Year 7s. With staff, sixth form students and students from Year 8 and 9 representing a wide selection of clubs, Year 7 flocked to the hall to see what it was all about. The hall was busy with intrigued students signing up to lunchtime and after school activities.



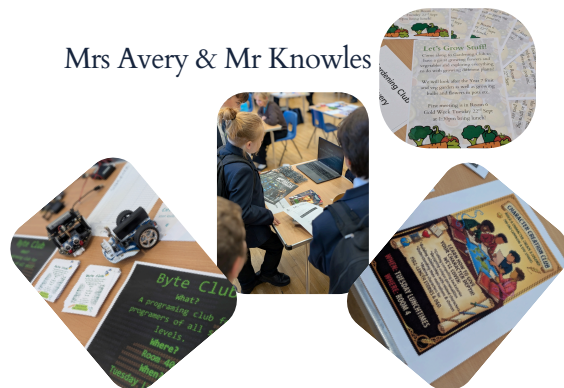
Sports clubs, hosted by Mr Errington, of course, were very popular. Miss Way also pulled in many interested students sign ups for choir and various strings and brass bands too. Mr Schalker's Byte Club attracted those interested in coding and Mrs Long brought a large selection of books to woo the readers in the year group.

Other clubs that were equally as popular were Mr Ahmed's Chess club, Mrs Avery's Eco club, Mr Coughlan's Warhammer Club and Mr Russell's Debate Club and STEM Club hosted by D&T, Science and Maths. Mr Sutton from STEP who works closely with the school attended to promote two Christian based clubs. Mx Moreland's D&D club was extremely popular and said that they will need to find a larger room to accommodate everyone!

As a school we are very proud of our extra-curricular offer and students get a lot out of them, giving them a sense of belonging and pride. Clubs are a great way of finding students with similar interests and making more friends!

Year 7 boys were challenged to try at least two clubs. Do talk to your son about which clubs he has signed up for. The full list of clubs running this term can be found on the school website under the 'School Life' menu.

Mrs Avery & Mr Knowles



VERUSixth

Setting the Stage for Sixth Form Success

Verulam Sixth Form recently welcomed over 100 parents, carers, and students to the school hall for the crucial Year 12 Parent Information Evening. Led by Headteacher Mr Moane and Director of Sixth Form Mr Base, the evening served as an essential roadmap for navigating the rewarding yet demanding transition into Level 3 and A-Level study.

The presentation highlighted that life in the Sixth Form is a distinct evolution from secondary school. While celebrating the cohort's excellent GCSE results, the leadership team emphasised that talent alone is no longer enough to prosper; a dedicated daily study routine of at least one hour of independent study for every taught hour is essential.

Central to the school's framework for academic perseverance is the VESPA Model, which focuses on five key components: Vision, Effort, Systems, Practice, and Attitude. Students were urged to establish structured routines, use study periods productively in the dedicated Sixth Form spaces, and consistently complete parallel study.

Beyond academics, the presentation outlined the rigorous, meritocratic journey towards Post-18 destinations. Final UCAS predicted grades will be calculated using a weighted average across multi-stage Year 12 and 13 assessments. The school provides robust support systems—including form tutors, academic mentors, enrichment programmes, and bespoke careers guidance—to help students achieve realistic university

offers or competitive degree apprenticeships.

Parents were also given practical strategies to support their children at home by fostering structured study environments and helping them maintain organisation.

Ultimately, the evening reinforced that while high standards of dress, punctuality, and attendance remain absolute expectations, students are fully supported by a dedicated pastoral team.

A full copy of the presentation is available on the school website under the Parents' Information Evenings section.

Mr Base, Director of Sixth Form



VERUNews

Local Food Bank support

We will again be supporting our local Food Bank at the Verso Care Centre. This week students have received information about this year's collection via Google Classroom and assemblies. In the past, our school community has been very generous with their donations and I hope this year we will be able to continue to donate as much as we can. Donations must be non-perishable.

If you are in a position to donate, please bring items in (or send them in with your son/daughter in a carrier bag clearly labelled with their form).

This collection is run as a House competition, so labelling the bag is important! The collection begins on Monday 28th September and runs until 9th October.

Last year Park House won, can they do it again?

Thank you in advance for giving generously to this worthy cause.

Mrs Avery, Assistant Headteacher




PLEASE BRING ANY NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ESPECIALLY...

Breakfast Bars, Biscuits, Squash, Apple Juice, Orange Juice, UHT Milk, Vegetarian Pot Noodles/Pasta, Tinned Fish, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Meat, Tinned Veg, Coffee, Size 7&8 Nappies, Individual Cartons of Fruit Juice, Breakfast Bars, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Shampoo, Hair Conditioner, Soap, Moisturiser, Deodorant, Non-Bio Laundry Liquid/Tablets, Fabric Conditioner, Bleach, Washing Up Liquid, Surface Spray

House Updates

The House leadership team organise many events throughout the school year which are designed to celebrate students' success and keep students motivated. Who will win this year?



BRAMPTON 17236



CHURCHILL 19512



HAMILTON 15621



JENNINGS 14297



PARK 15295



YORK 15329

In the Community

We are always keen to share helpful local updates, support networks and charity events with our Verulam community. Please take a look at the following links for further information:

- [St Albans Child Contact Centre](#)
- [Youth Talk](#)
- [St Albans & District Foodbank](#)
- [Coram Family Lives Information](#)
- [DENS Sleepout](#)
- [Stevensons School Uniform](#)
- [Hertfordshire Community News and Events](#)
- [St Albans Sleepout for Herts Young Homeless](#)
- [Hatfield Cultural Connection CIC](#)
- [Hertfordshire Children's Wellbeing Team - Free Workshops](#)
- [Carers in Herts](#)
- [Verso Care - Food Bank](#)
- [STEP Schools Work](#)

VERUNews

Year 7 Welcome Event

On Friday 11th September we held our annual Welcome Event for our new cohort of Year 7 parents which is an integral part of our transition process. The event was supported by the PTFA with a minibar and snacks and attended by Mr Moane, Miss Thackray, Mr Knowles and several of the Year 7 form tutors.

At Verulam we understand that secondary school transition is equally as difficult for parents as it is for our students so our event allows parents to network and share their experiences in a relaxed and social atmosphere. It is also a great opportunity for parents to meet key members of the school community.

It was a lovely evening and we would like to thank all of the parents who came and we hope you got a chance to make new connections just like the students. Whilst this was a more social event we will be holding a more formal settling in evening on Thursday 15th October where we will be sharing further important information with you and another chance to meet your son's form tutor.

I would like to thank parents for your positive feedback on the transition process so far and look forward to a strong working partnership for our students.

Mr Knowles, Head of Year 7



Lost Property

We are receiving large numbers of UNLABELLED items at Lost Property. To ensure these items are returned to their correct owner, please label everything that comes into school. This includes: school uniform, PE kit, water bottles, books, lunchboxes, bags, shoes, glasses to name but a few!

Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

VACANCIES

Verulam School is seeking a dynamic, engaging and innovative Director of English to lead our English department. Candidates should have excellent communication skills, a track record of improving results and a passion for English.

For further details or if you wish to have a tour of the school or ask any questions, please contact Roberta Williams on HR@verulam.aetrust.uk or 01727 766100

Student Photo Updates

Last week Tempest were in school taking individual photos of our Year 9s and Year 11s. Your child will be taking home proofs for these individual photos. Ordering details are included on the photo proof. Please ensure you check books and bags for the photo proofs so that you can order your son's photograph.

Please also remember to order your individual photos and Year 7 Form photos if you have a child in Year 7 or Year 12.

Verulam

Your PTFA needs YOU!

Be a part of something great! The events, activities and funds that the Verulam PTFA help to deliver are a vital part of the Verulam community. Being part of the PTFA is a great way to support your child at Verulam, meet new people and raise all important funds.

So whether you can give a day, an hour, or just a few clicks, you'll be part of something that truly supports our school and its students.

Thank you so much for your support - see you soon hopefully!

Contact:
verulamschoolpta@gmail.com



FIREWORKS FESTIVAL 2026

PTFA

FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER
6PM-9PM
FIREWORKS AT 7.30PM
TOTALLY MUD FREE ZONE!

Verulam School Sports Ground
Sandpit Lane, St Albans, AL4 0BX

NO PARKING ON SITE
Disabled parking only, MUST be pre-booked

Enjoy epic street food, bars with mulled wine, a live DJ, candy floss and breathtaking fireworks set to music!

TICKETS

Under 5s: **FREE**
5-15 year olds: **£6**
Adults: **£10**
Family: **£30**
2 adults, up to 3 children
Prices higher on the day

BOOK HERE!


tinyurl.com/veru2026

A massive **THANK YOU** to our Sponsors!



Supported by: 

PTFA Fireworks Festival

Verulam PTFA is excited to announce the return of our spectacular Fireworks Festival! Join us on Friday 23rd October 2026 at the Verulam School Sports Ground for an unforgettable evening of fireworks and family fun.

Get your tickets now and secure your spot in advance to avoid disappointment (prices increase on the day).

- Adult (16+) - £10
- Child (age 5 to 15 - under 5s free) - £6
- Family ticket (2 adults and up to 3 children) - £30

Please note: There will be NO PARKING available on site. A limited number of pre-booked disabled parking will be available. To prebook a disabled parking space, please add a Disabled Parking ticket when completing your purchase and send details of your blue badge and licence plate in advance to verulamschoolpta@gmail.com.





WILL YOU SLEEP OUT?

St Albans SLEEPOUT

Friday 13th November 2026



While you sleep tonight

120

young people could become homeless in the UK*

St Albans SLEEPOUT

Friday 13th November 2026

Registration open!

A welcoming weekend celebration of heritage and culture



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Cultural Pop-Up Market

EXHIBITION | BEAUTY | ART | CRAFTS FOOD | FASHION
LITERATURE | WORKSHOPS | EDUCATION | SERVICES
ENTERTAINMENT AND MUCH MORE...

SATURDAY 10TH & SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2026

10AM - 5PM & 10AM - 4PM

Westgate Stevenage
Unit 7 (Opposite River Island)
Westgate Shopping Centre
Stevenage SG1 1QR

SCAN ME

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: **CULTURAL CONNECTION**
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Stevenage Community Trust
Proudly supporting the local community

MORE INFORMATION: www.hatfieldculturalconnectioncic.org



coram family lives

Dads Together

Sign up to our 6-week online group

Are you a dad and feel like you are constantly nagging at your child to get what you need?

The sessions will cover:

- Exploring what helpful discipline is.
- Recognising the triggers and responding more effectively.
- Learning new parenting tools to challenge children's behaviour
- How to negotiate and implement effective boundaries and family agreements
- How to hold boundaries and gain co-operation

Wednesday 4th November to 9th December 2026

7.00pm to 9.00pm

Online via MS Teams

To book your place, call Lesley on 0204 522 8701, email services@coramfamilylives.org.uk or scan our QR code to use our online referral form

We build better family lives together

www.coramfamilylives.org.uk

@coramfamilyLivesHertsandBeds

Funded by Hertfordshire County Council

Hertfordshire

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PARENT INFORMATION MEETINGS – AUTUMN 26



Year 12 – Thursday 17th September

Year 11 – Thursday 24th September

Year 10 – Thursday 1st October

Year 9 – Wednesday 7th October

Year 8 – Wednesday 14th October

Year 7 (Settling in) – Thursday 15th October

Year 13 – Thursday 22nd October

At 6:00 pm



 01727 766100

 admin@verulam.aetrust.uk

 www.verulamschool.co.uk

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You will also find lots of information on our website:

