

VERULAM SCHOOL

SPOTLIGHT ON:



EDITION 11 : 15/12/23

SPOTLIGHT ON VERULAM SCHOOL LIBRARY

Verulam school library provides a quiet space for students to read, study and relax. The library gives students access to over 5,000 fiction books which cater for all interests. The fiction stock is organised by genre rather than a conventional A-Z sequence. This is in order that students can browse for books that are similar to ones they've previously enjoyed reading. Students and staff can browse the libraries book collection by logging into the library web app dashboard at <https://uk.accessit.online/vrl00/#!dashboard>. Here, students can peruse the book stock and reserve books for collection. To assist book choices there are a recommended book lists for each of the genres represented in the library: humour, science fiction and dystopias, crime, animals, thriller, adventure, mystery, fantasy, historical novels, horror & gothic, coming-of-age, war and sport.

Additionally, there is a collection of over 1600 e-books that students can borrow to read on their devices; this is accessed from the [eplatform](#) app. There is also a core collection of non-fiction texts that are more specifically allied to supporting the curriculum.

The stock of the library is regularly updated and there is a Student Council who make recommendations for purchases. This committee also organises a yearly sponsored read to raise funds for book purchases. This council visit the Books on the Hill bookshop in town, and the shop features book reviews from Verulam students. The school has partnered with this excellent independent book shop and the parents/staff/students receive a 20% discount on purchases using the code "VerulamReads".

At Verulam the importance of literacy and encouraging students to read for pleasure are treated with the utmost importance and the role of the library is central to this. All Year 7 & 8 students have a dedicated library lesson once every fortnight. In this lesson students have their teachers read to them and they have a dedicated workbook to build up their literary knowledge and analytical skills.

To enable teachers to track students reading patterns and abilities Year 7 & 8 students are enrolled on the Accelerated Reader (AR) programme. This provides an estimated reading age for students and from this a target points score is generated for students to achieve during the term. By reading books and taking quizzes on books read, students accumulate points towards their termly target.

As we approach the holidays, we hope students and families will take the time to settle down with a good book!



COMING UP SOON:

Date	Event	Time
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Jumper Day (donations to Crisis at Christmas)	All day
Friday 15 th December	Year 12 Blue Peris Trip departs	
Tuesday 19 th December	Year 12 Blue Peris trip returns	
Wednesday 20 th December	End of term	Staggered dismissal. Closed by 12:20pm – see specific email for the order of dismissals by Year group.
Friday 5 th January	Students' first day back	Normal school day: 8:35am – 3:10pm for all Year groups
Monday 8 th January	Berlin trip parents' information evening	6pm
Wednesday 10 th January	Year 13 Parents' Evening	From 4:15pm