

Minchinhampton C of E Primary Academy

Newsletter

Newsletter Number 6: Spring Term

Tuesday 27th March 2018

SOME NEWS:

Mock Trial

The debating team took part in the Mock Trial. It felt quite realistic and was therefore quite nerve-wracking for those children who were playing speaking parts. It was fun planning it because we had to consider carefully both sides of the argument.-- *Jude*

Hockey Tournament

Our hockey team played in a tournament recently. We made it through to the quarter finals but because we then encountered a really tough team who we had already played earlier in the day, we didn't progress further. Mrs Aldridge said it was a real pleasure taking us.—*Max*

Rugby Tournament

I got really wet playing rugby but it was really fun and we came third overall. We won our last match quite easily because we had got better and better as the afternoon went on.—*Cora*

Yee Ha!

I think we all thoroughly enjoyed the Year 3/4 production—no strike that—were bowled over, as ever, by the confidence and brilliance of the children's performance and by the feat of engineering that sees something like this hit the stage mid-term, with everything else that goes on mid-term, in this slightly frantic, idea and event heavy school. A highpoint for me was the showdown towards the end between the baddie and the goodie- picture clinking stirrups and rolling tumbleweed –but not—and the baddie taken out with a whisk. Well done to all the children and the adults who poured their energies and talents into this thing and gave us all a wonderful time.

COMMUNICATION

-Please check class assemblies on school calendar—a couple were not on the parent calendar.

Could you please let your classes know that we have raised £312.90 so far for Sports Relief 2018.

Thanks to everyone for promoting it and the book raffle.

Thank you to Mimi and Ilyana who raised extra money for the Pied Piper Appeal at the weekend. In total, they raised £22.90.

TEXTS: 'I have taken an interest in the words I used and brought my writing alive for the reader.....I got all of them right—must be teamwork.....I could have written Varjak Paw.....I should write short stories for a living.'

LEARNING

Indigo's class assembly had plenty of dance—or 'creative movement' worked into the presentation. It reminded me about what a brilliant creative outlet dance can be. The debating team's latest debate hinges on the question, 'What sport or activity should Sport UK be promoting most if we are to get the nation active?' Our team are making the argument for dance. They have watched Sir Ken Robinson on youtube to help them form an argument—he is well worth a watch.

POETS CORNER

I Wish The Stars Could See Me

Obnoxious creatures destroying my ears to death,

Why did Lolly hate me so much?

My own perfect eyes stare to see past the barriers,

I wish the stars could see me,

The gloomy darkness pushing against me

I should be sitting on my throne,

Not in this dump,

My throat prickles with each gulp

Is Abiline looking for me?

Rancid fumes are invading my nose

Why me?

Governor Visit

On the 26th February we attended a Senior Leadership Team (SLT) meeting to discuss the Team's Data Booklet which contains an analysis of the key outcomes for children. This discussion focused on Maths, Writing and Reading, Early Years outcomes and the outcomes of the most vulnerable children (those with Pupil Premium, Special Educational Needs and other children about whom teachers have concerns). We were really impressed by the level of detail and analysis that the team have conducted and the understanding of the implications for the children. The team spoke authoritatively about cohorts, classes and anonymised individual cases across the entire school as examples to illustrate and explain their analysis of the data. The discussion also focused on the way in which their management decisions and strategies are informed by this analysis and how the teaching interventions are intended to impact on the experience, learning and outcomes for the children. These discussions will be shared with the other governors at future meetings, but we would like to thank the SLT very much for the all the work they are doing for the children at the school. We concluded that the team have a very firm grasp on the children's progress and are very well able use their analysis to put the appropriate interventions in place for our children - and they are very good at identifying the needs of our most vulnerable children. They are working very hard to ensure that the children have the best opportunities and support to at least attain their age related expectations and are equipped to succeed in later level of education and in life.

Margaret Sheather, Mark Catt & Kenny Lynch

REQUESTS-: Please remember previous:::no pens ::no nuts :::

HOLIDAYS

Please think again before planning holidays during term time.

I understand fully why people might take holidays during term time.

However our attendance has reached an all-time low and this is down to holidays.

The implications for an individual child might not be significant.

The implications for teachers can be and for the school as a whole certainly are -significant. To put it plainly- the numbers of holidays impact on our ability to do the job and help the children 'as a group' learn.

Parents are very good at putting requests in writing and I am thankful for that. When requests come in, I will now be asking parents please to pop in and have a chat to me.

