

Friday 5th April

Issue 15

MINCHINIHAMPTON NEWSLETTER

TRAFFIC SITUATION OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

The school and many of the parents are concerned about where some people park their cars at drop off time. Someone could easily get badly hurt because a parked car has obscured their view or from a car reversing into them. The children would like to say, 'Please don't park on the zig zag lines or on corners and please drive really carefully around school at drop off time. We are worried something terrible might happen.'

The children are going to start their own traffic monitoring group and Mr Moss has said the school might start making a note of the number plates of cars that are parked dangerously so that they can be emailed out to everyone.

READING CLUB

Every Friday, reading club gets together to enjoy books. On Friday 15th some of Reading club's members went on a trip to Cirencester with Mr Moss and Miss Tonner and went to four different bookshops to buy books for school.

"We bought so many books:- 'Party Pug', 'Rat Burger', 'Against all Gods', 'Beyond the Odyssey.' I also got four 'Paw Patrol' books for my little brother. I really enjoyed the trip. It was nice to have the chance to just buy books," said Shannon.

STAFF MINDFULNESS COURSE

Some school staff have started a second round of Mindfulness training. The course lasts for 8 weeks. Mrs Saeed is presently on a course exploring how staff might best introduce it more widely in school. If you would like to find out more about 'mindfulness' in schools, please feel free to get in touch.

MOCK TRIAL

On Friday 15th March, our school debating team went off to a Mock Trial in Stroud. The case was the theft of an iPhone that belonged to Leo Williams who got it for his birthday the day before. Charlie Foster was accused of stealing it. Our debating team consists of: Molly-Mei, Kitty, Aidan, Isabella, Sam, Kirstin, Mawgan, Zach and Lyra. They have previously competed in a debate about '*Who is the best sports coach?*' They won so they are progressed into the county final- where the debate was: '*What is the greatest sporting moment of all time?*'

Molly said, "I was the legal advisor and I had to write down everything that was said. It was fun but my hand hurt in the end. The mock trial was fun and tiring."

"I was the magistrate. I got to help decide at the end whether the person in the trial was guilty or not. It was fun because we got to actually feel what a real court case would be like," said Isabella.

"I was the second prosecutor," Sam told us, "And my job was asking questions to the witnesses. We had to wear smart things like a shirt, tie and smart trousers."

"I was a key witness. I had to make sure that Charlie looked guilty. I was very nervous, but it was still quite fun," Zach told us.

Even though they didn't win they were still proud of themselves and we are still proud of them. At the end Charlie Foster was proved guilty but the team were frustrated because they felt the defence team were economical with the truth and contradicted themselves. However they did concede that a person should only be found guilty if they had been proven guilty beyond all reasonable doubt.



YEAR 5/6 ARCHERY

On Wednesday 13th March, some of the Year 5/6's went to Archway School for an Archery competition. They started off with learning how to hold the bow and shooting sticky arrows at the target. After they used the sticky darts, they got to try real arrows. They got three shots with each to try and earn points.

Rui told us, "I enjoyed the Archery. The other teams had four more people than us so we were always going to get less points. If we had scaled up our score by finding each of our mean scores and then multiplied that by 9, we would have done well on points as well as had a lot of fun."

"I liked it because it was fun and you got to shoot stuff," said Barney.

"I enjoyed the Archery because I like shooting things, I like Archery because when I was little I used to do archery with a thorn on a stick," stated Ethan.

Anya said, "We all had a lot of fun and we got ticked off for calling the middle a bull's eye when its actually called the gold."

"I liked it because it was a new experience and I had never done it before. I found out that archery was actually quite easy when you got used to it. I didn't know anything about how to hold the bow and I learned how to. I didn't know before that a '*bull's eye*' is actually called the gold," Alice told us.

WRITING OUR OWN REPORTS

In the month leading up to the 8th of March, we were writing sections for our reports. In the reports there was a section entitled 'my learning'. Pupils had to fill in that box with the help of their teacher, writing about all of their learning and favourite experiences so far in the school year. Some have commented on this topic:

"I enjoy the idea of my parents seeing what I do in class coming from me.....I liked typing about my life in Year 6.....I found it hard coming up with ideas but I liked sharing the learning that she does at school with her parents. I think that it is a good idea to let the pupils write some of their own reports so that their parents could find out what they get up to at school..... I think writing your own reports could go wrong because you might be boastful about yourself to your parents but I did like it—having the freedom to tell our parents what we do without it coming from our teachers....I really liked writing a bit in my report because I got to say about my achievements and my favourite things to do in school."

MATHS EVENING

On the 5th of March the Yr5/6 teachers organised a maths evening for the children and their parents. They started off by putting a question on the board to find out what each picture was worth but you had to watch out because the picture of the clock had different times on it. You had to use BIDMAS.

Lots of people came to the evening- in total there were about 70 parents and children. The teachers wanted to demonstrate how maths is taught in our school. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and so now they are planning similar evenings for KS1 and Year 3/4.

KS1 MULTI SKILLS TOURNAMENT

On 20th March some children went to a Multi-skills tournament. They did lots of different kinds of sports like jumping, throwing and running.

"I enjoyed it because I like all three of the things there were. I hope to do it again soon," Ellie-May told us.

Agatha told us, "I liked it because it was really fun and it gave me lots of exercise."

GYMNASTICS ASSEMBLY

On the 27th of March some of our gymnasts from school took the opportunity to perform to the school after their gymnastics competition was cancelled. There was a variety of moves from a forward roll to a back handspring. The school years varied from Year 1 to Year 6. Everyone was very brave and played their part amazingly. Kitty said, "It was fun and I enjoyed performing in front of my school." 'It was nerve wracking at first but then I felt really confident and proud to do it in front of my friends and family," said Amber. Altogether, it was a great success.

NETBALL

On 27th March 2019 some of our netball team went to play in a tournament against other schools, including: St Mary's, Norton Hill and Gastrells. "I found netball really fun because I got to compete against other schools," Amy told us, "It was very different to when we practise at school because it was indoors and the hoops were much taller."

"I enjoyed it because I like playing it and I think I am quite good at it. We played very hard and we had lots of fun. We came sixth overall," commented Ilyana, 'most of the team were made up of Year 5's and we were playing against Year 6's.'

Y6 DEBATING COUNTY FINAL

On Tuesday 2nd April 2019, the Year 6 debating team went to Cheltenham College for the county final debate. The topic was '*What is the greatest sporting moment of all time?*' Our debating team put forward the Stoke Mandeville games of 1948 (what then became the Paralympics.) We came up with this because it is all about everyone getting a chance to play sport. Even though it was only sixteen patients from the spinal unit on the front lawn of the hospital competing in archery, it was the day that the Paralympic movement began. The teams that we were debating against were: Tutshill and Meysey Hampton. Tutshill were arguing for the Christmas truce football game of 1914. Our arguments against the truce were: -it was not all about the football; both teams claimed to have won; truces happened a lot so it wasn't special to Christmas or to 1914. Some of the facts that we got from our research were different to theirs which means it wasn't remembered very well which means that it wasn't very significant. Meysey Hampton argued that Jesse Owens winning 4 gold's at the Berlin Olympics was the greatest sporting moment of all time. Our arguments against them were:- even though he competed in front of the Nazis, it didn't stop the Germans committing terrible crimes against people they didn't like; when Owens returned home he wasn't congratulated by his president and he had to become a janitor just because he was black. It was a very close debate and all of the teams gave strong points- in the end we came second.

KS1 CROSS COUNTRY

On the 2nd April children from Year 1 and 2 went to a cross country competition at Painswick Rugby Club. 'I liked it but I did get a bit tired when I saw the finish line—I did come in 7th place...I feel very proud of myself,' said Poppy. 'I liked it but was a bit scary going round the polls and at the end I did a big slip over the finish line,' said Arthur. It was the first time we have been involved in a KS1 cross country and our runners did really really well. Sam said, 'I found it harder than I thought it would be but I still came 4th.'

YEAR 3/ 4 PLAY

On 2nd of April 2019, the Yr3/4's hit the stage with their production of Pantastic. Throughout the week they did two performances for parents. As usual it was a great success and everyone knew their lines. The Year 3's were singing all of the songs while the Year 4's performed as characters. Many thanks to all the Year 3/4 teachers who have worked their socks off to make this play happen. It was really clever how Royal Year 3's were pirates, Sapphire Year 3's were Native Americans and Cyan Year 3's were lost boys.

"It was a delight to watch!" said Isabella, "I thoroughly enjoyed it and I am sure the parents will too."

"I enjoyed watching it very much. It was a pleasure to watch. The soloists were very good and very brave," Cerys told us.

"Good," said Aidan.

"It was Petertastic!" shouted Rui.

VE DAY PARTY

On Monday 1st April, our Year 5/6 pupils had a VE day party to celebrate the Second World War being over. This party included eating rock cakes that we had made the Friday before, performing our 'Lindy Hop' dance and playing games children would have played during the war. "I loved it so much! It was so fun, especially playing the games. I filmed some of the games on the learn pads. The rock cakes were so yummy too!" Bel said. Everyone dressed up in World War 2 costumes and enjoyed an afternoon dedicated to peace. "It was very fun and it felt like it was an actual VE day party," commented Cerys.

GIRLS FOOTBALL

Every Thursday, after school a group of girls play football. We play football against each other and practice our skills. However, we need more people to join otherwise we won't be able to continue the fun and there won't be a club anymore. "Football is really fun and I think it's good that they're letting girls play it" quoted Isabelle.

CAR CLUB

In car club they have been taking apart the school car, and then putting it back together how they would like it. This week they dressed up as cows and made a sponsorship video asking for sponsors so they could get new parts for their car so they could enter a race which they have been working up to. They have been practising two types of racing- slalom and straight. Slalom is when you weave through the cones and straight is wellgoing straight. "Car club is the best club ever!" said one student.

PANATHLON

A week ago a group of our pupils took part in Panathlon at Stroud Leisure Centre. There were 16 schools altogether and they took part in a range of sports including cricket, tennis, basketball and boccia.

The children had enormous fun. It was really well organised and a really positive experience.

ORIENTEERING

On the 3rd April, some of our children took part in an orienteering competition at Westonbirt Arboretum. We had to navigate using our map to find points throughout the grounds and then answer the questions we found at each point.

'It was a good way of spending a morning....and everyone worked well together and had a jolly good time,' said Aidan.

Hmm- that's rather a lot—we need to send theses out slightly more often!

Kind regards

The News Team