



NEWSLETTER No.8

Friday 29th November 2019

OUR VISION: 'Life in all its fullness'

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are continuing the trial. We will send the newsletter every Friday afternoon before the end of school. We will include news stories by the pupils when we can and at least every other Friday.

We have tried this week to make upcoming events easier for you and we have now used Mail Chimp in an attempt to make the information even clearer and more accessible.

Please note the [Parent Calendar](#) on the school website is kept up to date. It includes information about key events in the description.

SCHOOL VISION

QUOTE 7: I am mindful that attempts made to measure excellence can lead to limiting definitions of excellence and betray the appreciation and promotion of individuality. Einstein said, 'Everybody is a genius but if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid.'

NEWS

KS2 Science: [Some Year 5/6 pupils went to a company called SLG](#) in connection with their science week. We were given a challenge by three scientists from SLG in Cheltenham. Their challenge to us was to create a sunscreen bottle which included no plastic.

Sports Hall Athletics: On Friday 22nd, some children from KS2 went to [Sports Hall Athletics](#). The team

came 3rd and the children had a great time.

Wellbeing Wednesday: The staff try to engage in [Wellbeing Wednesday](#) each week.

We work closely with a great organisation called *The Centre for Language in Primary*

Education: We are one of their Associate Schools. We teach using a method called '[The Power of Reading](#)'.

KS2 Tag Rugby at Painswick RFC: This was called off due to weather conditions. It will be re-scheduled in the new year.

[ADMIN](#)

[Any new dates for your diary & some info about upcoming events:](#)

Philosophy for Children Curriculum Evening: for children and their parents on 11th December, from 7.00-8.00pm in the School Hall. Please see the 'What is P4C' [blog post](#) for more information.

Storytime Fun: For Minchinhampton's Early Years children (Nursery age) & their parents with the author John Dougherty and friends, on Thursday 5th December from 2.15-3.00 pm. Refreshments provided in the School Hall.

Turquoise class assembly: This will be on Friday 6th December from 9.00-10.00am. Parents/carers welcome.

Christmas Theme non-uniform day: On Friday 13th Dec, there will be a non-uniform day to raise money for Save the Children. Decorate yourself with tinsel and baubles or if you have a festive jumper, please feel free to wear it. Please bring a donation of £1

FS/KS1 Christmas production: "Christmas Values" by FS/KS1 children will be performed on Weds 11th Dec from 2.00-3.00pm and on Thurs 12th Dec from 9:30-10:30am. Ticket letters have been sent via book bags. Get your order back to the office as soon as possible to avoid disappointment as spaces are limited. FS/KS1 costume letters have now gone out ready for the Christmas production. Please send costumes in to classes by next Thursday, Dec 5th. Please contact class teachers with any queries. Thank you.

Yr 5/6 Cheltenham Playhouse Trip: This is happening on Friday 13th December. Please sign up and pay

online.

Yr 3/4 Karl Nova Visit: This is happening on Friday 10th January. Please sign up and pay online.

Please scroll down for December diary dates. These are also up to date on the [parent calendar](#).

INFO

SCHOOL COMMS: We are now using Schoolcomms as a way of paying for trips online. When a trip is set up on the system you will receive a text alert to let you know you can pay via schoolcomms. You can download the app, which is called [School Gateway](#), within your app store. We would encourage parents to do this as all correspondence will then be seen in your app, rather than an individual text or email notification. This is also a very cost effective way for the school to contact you. The app is free to download and also works with Secondary Schools who use School Comms. Please see the 'Welcome to Schoolcomms' letter [here](#). If you cannot access the app, please let us know and we can look into this for you.

HOLIDAYS: We have had 106 sessions missed due to holidays since we started back on Tuesday 3rd September.

PUPILS

PUPIL BLOG: Some more of our pupils have put poems on the [poetry blog](#) this week - please find the time to make a comment for them.

SCHOOL COUNCIL: The School Council are going to take it in turns to come to leadership meetings in school to discuss the learning experience at Minchinhampton.

PTA

Christmas Raffle: The [Christmas Raffle](#) is now open! The PTA is really making an effort to try to reduce waste and are excited to introduce our online raffle! We hope you have fun trying it out. There are some really amazing prizes, including Giffords Circus tickets, Chalfest tickets, Lunch at The Crown, Henry's or even Calcot Manor! A Christmas tree, a gliding experience, a junior golf lesson, a massage and so many more exciting treats! You're in with a chance for just 50p a ticket! It's really easy to use just follow this

easy-to-remember link: [Bit.ly/minchraffle](https://bit.ly/minchraffle) or click through [here](#). You can share this link with whoever you choose.

100% proceeds go to Minchinhampton School PTA to raise funds that enable the school to provide important resources and experiences for the children at school. Your personal details are not shared with anyone else, however your name will appear next to the tickets you have chosen (so, should you be a winner, you are able to collect your prize). You can choose to go by a different name or nickname if you wish, but bear in mind we will call it out in the school hall if you win! If you want to know more about the online system and how it works, there is a useful FAQ section on the website [here](#).

We think it's a great system and makes everything easier and more secure than the traditional paper method but if you are feeling hesitant about entering online, or are unable to for any reason, we are still selling tickets using real cash and paper in the foyer to the office at drop off and pick up all this week, and at the fair.

Best wishes and good luck from the PTA Christmas Fair Team!

Christmas Trees: Are you wondering where to get your Christmas tree and also raise money for the PTA? Then look no further than Minchinhampton Christmas Trees who will be selling from the Scout hut from November 29th. If you say you are a Minch School Parent then Dave will donate 10% of your sale to the PTA. Over the past few years the PTA has received several hundred pounds, so please support him.

We hope you find this new newsletter format helpful and we would welcome any feedback.

With very best wishes from all at Minchinhampton C of E Primary Academy.

DIARY DATES: December 2019

Mon 2nd: Stroud District Swimming Gala

Weds 4th: Christmas Lunch

Thurs 5th: Storytime Fun for Early Years

Sat 7th: Christmas Fair

Mon 9th: KS2 Choir at Cecily Court

Weds 11th: "Christmas Values" (PM)

Weds 11th: P4C Curriculum Evening

Thur 12th: "Christmas Values" (AM)

Fri 13th: Christmas Theme Dress Up Day

Fri 13th: Yr 5/6 Cheltenham Playhouse Trip

Weds 17th: Breakfast with Santa

Weds 17th: Yr 5/6 Christmas Party

Weds 17th: KS1 Choir at Cecily Court

Thur 19th: Flu Immunisations

Thur 19th: FS/KS1 Christmas Party

Fri 20th: Christmas Service (11am)

Fri 20th: Yr 3/4 Christmas Celebration

[Go to PARENT CALENDAR](#)

LETTERS

NURSERY

Christmas Production

REC/YEAR 1

Christmas Production
& Costume,
Swimming (Indigo)

YEAR 2

Christmas Production &
Costume

YEAR 3/4

Karl Nova Visit
(Poetry/Hip Hop) &
Christmas Celebrations

YEAR 5/6

Cheltenham Playhouse
Theatre Trip

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