



NEWSLETTER No.9

Friday 6th December 2019

[OUR VISION: 'Life in all its fullness'](#)

Dear Parents/Carers,

December is here, the holidays are drawing near and a busy schedule of festive activities is underway. Christmas lunch on Wednesday was enjoyed by 263 students and staff, the stage is set for this year's Christmas production with rehearsals now in full swing, a more environmentally-friendly Christmas fair is being brought together by a dedicated team (we hope to see you there tomorrow) and hundreds of imaginatively-decorated jazzy jam jars adorn the School hall.

With school brimming with so much fun, we also look to focus hearts and minds outwards, with kindness in helping others. Christmas-themed dress up next week is in aid of Save the Children, staff are gathering contributions for the Stroud Food Bank through a reverse advent calendar and the choir is preparing to sing for residents at Cecily Court.

Please scroll down to the end of the newsletter for diary dates. These are also kept up to date on the parent calendar on the school website, including information about key events in the description.

SCHOOL VISION

With reference to the quote here, avoiding politics of course, but recognising all the same that pressures from beyond these four walls can always threaten to skew the vision; hence the need for a strong vision. If you haven't come across John O'Donohue, look him up - wonderful man.

QUOTE 8: 'Our times are driven by the inestimable energies of the mechanical mind; its achievements derive from its singular focus, linear direction and force. When it dominates

the habit of gentleness dies out. We become blind: nature is rifled, politics eschews vision and becomes the obsessive servant of economics, and religion opts for the mathematics of system and forgets its mystical flame. Instead of true leadership which would be the servant of vision and imagination, we have systems of puppetry which are carefully constructed and manipulated from elsewhere. We never know who we are dealing with; hidden agendas operate to deepen our insecurity and persuade us to be hopeless.' John O'Donohue

[NEWS](#)

*Our swimmers had a successful **Swimming Gala** this week, coming second. How proud are we of them! Please see their report [here](#).*

***Cyan class assembly** gave us a lovely window into the learning going on in Cyan class, a veritable feast of learning. Read all about it [here](#).*

We had our first **Storytime Fun** this Thursday afternoon for Nursery-age children in Minchinhampton. The event was jointly run by ourselves and the Coigne and we were joined by our Patron of Reading, John Dougherty.

[ADMIN](#)

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

Outdoor Learning: Upcoming sessions with Mr Meadows. Sky class will be on Mon 9th December from 1.30pm. Cyan class will be on Mon 16th December from 1.30pm Please bring appropriate clothing and footwear

[REMINDERS](#)

Indigo class swimming letters for next term: Please return these asap but certainly by Monday 16th December.

Year 3/4 Karl Nova visit: Please return slip and payment to the school office by Friday 13th December.

INFO

Number of people reading the newsletter: 56.0% of Minchinhampton Academy Parents/Carers opened Newsletter No.8 last week. The average Open Rate for the education and training industry is 23.42% (Source: <https://mailchimp.com/resources/email-marketing-benchmarks/>).

Holidays: The number of days missed in total due to holidays is 53 in a 60 day period.

Traffic: Please don't forget - we are passing on car registration numbers to the police and you could end up with a ticket if you park on the zig zag lines. There will be a 'Walk to School Week' in the first week back after the holidays. We will try to run one of these at the beginning of each term to try to break us all into better new habits.

PUPILS

POETRY BLOG: Please read and comment on the students' poems [here](#).

SCHOOL COUNCIL: We have written a letter this week requesting a Christmas tree for the school.

PTA

Come and join **Santa for Breakfast** on Tuesday 17th December from 8.00am.

Quiz Night: This will be held on Friday 31st January in the school hall. Full details to follow, but it is time to start getting your team (of up to 8 people) together and adding Trivial Pursuit to your Christmas list! E-mail minchpta@hotmail.co.uk to register your 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 is

currently selling from the Scout Hut . 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.

PTA Meetings: Every parent in the school is automatically a member of the PTA. Therefore PTA meetings are open to everyone who has a child in the school. The next meeting will be held at the Cotswold Club on Tuesday 14th January at 8.00pm. We would love to see you there.

CHRISTMAS FAIR REMINDERS

(Sat 7th Dec, 12.00pm - 2.30pm)

1. Please bake some **CAKE** for the Christmas fair! Cake donations gratefully received. Please bring them along in the morning if you can, via the lower playground Hall door, or bring them with you to the fair.
2. Don't forget to buy your **RAFFLE** tickets from [here](#) or click the big red button below!
3. There will be some fantastic pre-loved items on sale as well as a few stalls run by local small businesses and crafters. Support the school, and local businesses and get some lovely Christmas prezzies. Please bring plenty of **SPENDING MONEY!**
4. Please help us reduce our environmental impact - **BRING YOUR OWN CUPS** to the fair and get a discount on your drinks! (Please also make use of recycling bins at the fair for your recyclable rubbish)

We're all very excited! See you there at 12.00pm!!

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

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

DIARY DATES:

Sat 7th: Christmas Fair (all welcome)

Mon 9th: KS2 Choir at Cecily Court

Weds 11th: FS/KS1 "Christmas Values" - 2pm

Weds 11th: P4C Curriculum Evening (all welcome)

Thur 12th: FS/KS1 "Christmas Values" - 9.30am

Fri 13th: Christmas Theme Dress Up Day (whole school)

Fri 13th: Yr 5/6 Cheltenham Playhouse Trip

Tue 17th: Breakfast with Santa

Tue 17th: Yr 5/6 Christmas Party

Tue 17th: KS1 Choir at Cecily Court

Thur 19th: Flu Immunisations

Thur 19th: FS/KS1 Christmas Party

Fri 20th: Christmas Service - 11am (all welcome)

Fri 20th: Yr 3/4 Christmas Celebration

Mon 6th Jan: First day of new term

Mon 13th Jan: INSET day

[Go to PARENT CALENDAR](#)

LETTERS

ALL YEARS

P4C Evening
&
Traffic Committee

YEAR 1

Swimming (Indigo)

YEAR 3/4

Christmas Celebrations

[Go to LETTERS](#)