



NEWSLETTER No.11

Friday 20th December 2019

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

And so the holidays are finally here and it's time for everybody's hard work this term to be rewarded with rest, relaxation and lots of festive good cheer. Thank you to everyone for your dedication and determination this year, which has given us so many highlights to reflect upon. Our final newsletter of 2019 is decorated with Christmas artwork, with thanks to all KS2 children who designed an entry, along with all the regular news and information and a look ahead to some dates for your diary in the new year. Please note the Parent Calendar on the school website is kept up to date, including information about key events in the description. We look forward to seeing you all in 2020, and to welcoming all the new year has in store for our school community.

SCHOOL VISION

QUOTE 10: 'We have to go from what is essentially an industrial model of education, a manufacturing model, which is based on linearity and conformity and batching people. We have to move to a model that is based more on principles of agriculture. We have to recognize that human flourishing is not a mechanical process; it's an organic process. And you cannot predict the outcome of human development. All you can do, like a farmer, is create the conditions under which they will begin to flourish.' - Ken Robinson

NEWS

Christmas Service: On Friday the 20th of December the whole of Minchinhampton School, including the parents, were welcomed to Holy Trinity to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Thanks to the KS1 and 2, everyone enjoyed the joyful songs. But the most unusual thing happened: unlike other vicars, Father Howard brought his dog, 'Fleur,' into church to help him with work. Anyway, I would love to say a big thank you to the amazing church for bringing us yet more happiness at Christmas. By Martha.

Graphic Novels: Year 5/6 have been making graphic novels, based on the stories that they had written. It has been very stressful - plenty of rubbers and snapped pencils. But they made it and they look amazing. Here are some of the titles: Scarlet's Adventure, Jessie's Path to Egypt, Tara's Secret Midnight Adventure, Bethany's Midnight Story. If those titles make you want to read the books, know that it has not only been Year 5/6 but also Year 3/4 who have been 'graphic novelling.' These have been based on a graphic novel they have been reading 'Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx.' We have Sophie's opinion of her book. Sophie said, "My book has two main characters - one is a villain and one of them is trying to get an object off the villain. One of the characters goes on an adventure to the North Pole." My Blurb was: "Do you love adventure stories? Then this is a have read. This book is about a little girl called Ivy and she is going to collect a very special stone." By Lydia

All 4 Theatre Performance: On Monday the 16th December, a theatre group called 'All 4' treated the entire school to a performance, instead of an assembly. It was all about two different men, who have had two different ideas to make THE BEST CHRISTMAS EVER! There was a queen who wasn't amazing and made it a huge competition but in the end the men (Jingle the Jester and Joe the Monk) make friends, set their differences aside, and work together. We have seen a show by 'All 4' before, but I like this one more, because it was really good. It didn't really have a moral, so it was just a bit of fun. It was very festive and went on for a long time but I think everyone thought it didn't go on long enough, and the time flew by. It was very good and everyone enjoyed it. By Lyra

Theatre Trip: On Friday the 13th of December Year 5/6 went to see Tom's Midnight Garden. After studying the book for a month, they had the treat of going to the Playhouse Theatre in Cheltenham. The performers used mime which was incredible. If that wasn't enough, they also got to meet the actors and ask questions. They were very lucky to have this trip as were the parent helpers, who were thrilled by the sight - they loved it and wished that they had studied it when they were 9,10 and 11 years old. By Lydia

Outdoor Learning: Learning outdoors is very important. Outside the world comes to you; you don't need to recreate it as you do in a classroom.

KS2 Eco Warriors & Crispin Munch: We are pleased to report that Crispin Munch, the European crisp packet-eating monster, has been doing a very good job over the last few months, gobbling up over 5kg worth of used crisp packets ready for recycling. Our KS2 Eco

Warriors have been busy making delivery boxes and packing them full of the collected crisp packets, ready to send to Terracycle. This was our first shipment, which was sent on Wednesday and will be turned into new things including park benches and plant pots.

ADMIN

Year 3/4 Production Dates: Performances of 'The Jungle Book' will be on Wednesday 1st April at 1:15pm and Thursday 2nd April at 7pm. More details to follow next term.

Clubs: Lists and forms have now come out to you all for next term's clubs. Please return your choices with payment if applicable as soon as possible to the school office. You will only hear back from us if you have not been successful in gaining a place. As in previous terms, clubs do not start the first week back as we are allocating spaces. Clubs will start on Tuesday 14th January.

REMINDERS

Young Voices: please could all payments be made by Friday 10th January. Many thanks.

Karl Nova Visit (Year 3/4): please bring any outstanding permissions and contributions to the school office on Monday 6th January latest. Thank you.

Sweets: We always try and discourage sweets for birthdays. Too much plastic, meat products and e-numbers. We would welcome any new suggestions.

Maths Curriculum Evening: for Year 3/4 parents and children on the evening of 15th January at 6pm. Please see letter sent.

Walk to School Week: will be held in the first week back after the holidays (6th to 10th Jan). Mr Bennett and Mr Moss will be giving out raffle tickets in the playground at the beginning of each day to those children who have walked to school. We will categorise walking to school as anyone who has walked from a distance, for example Cambridge Way or Dr Browns Rd. We will also be interviewing walkers and cyclists as to how we can continue to improve our travelling to school habits to make them healthier, safer and more green. We will try to run one of these at the beginning of each term to try to break us all into better new habits.

INFO

Flu Nasal Spray: We had a 16% decline rate, with 51 people opting out of the immunisation. 34 people did not reply, leaving us with 66% uptake this year which is 229 pupils immunised.

School meal prices will be going down to £2.32 in January. The new menu is up on the school website here.

On Tuesday 21st January there will be an **E-safety Parent Meeting** at 5.30pm. All welcome. More details to follow in the new year.

In dates for your diary below you will find lots of **Sports Fixtures** listed. Details for these will follow in the new year.

Just Giving: Thank you so very much to everyone for their kind generosity. The present total is a fantastic £815.00.

Holidays: In total this term, we've had 12 Families / 16 Children taking a holiday. This has totalled up to 13 weeks and 4 days missed in a 15 week period.

On Tuesday 28th January, there will be a **Parent's meeting for Year 3** regarding the 2021 Year 4 residential at 6pm. Details will follow in the new year.

PUPILS

PUPIL BLOG: Children in Year 3/4 are writing a letter to the Prime Minister. Please see where we have got to so far. There are also a few more poems up on the poetry blog. Please leave a comment.

PTA

Breakfast with Santa: This was a lovely event with lots of happy faces. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to bring it together. Please pick up your child's individual photograph with Santa from the school office.

Dates for your Diary:

Quiz Night: This will be held on Friday 31st January. 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

Comedy Night: This will be held on Friday 6th March. E-mail comedy2020@hotmail.com or message Sophie Muir through facebook for your tickets.

**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:

Mon 6th Jan: First day of new term

Mon 6th Jan: Walk to School week begins

Tue 7th Jan: Indigo class swimming begins

Tue 7th Jan: Year 1 Outdoor Learning

Fri 10th Jan: Karl Nova visit (Year 3/4)

Mon 13th Jan: INSET day

Tue 14th Jan: Clubs begin

Tue 14th Jan: Indigo class swimming

Tue 14th Jan: Year 1 Outdoor Learning

Weds 15th Jan: Year 3/4 Maths Curriculum
Evening

Thurs 16th Jan: Year 5/6 Living Rainforest Trip

Mon 20th Jan: Indigo class Outdoor Learning

Tue 21st Jan: Indigo class swimming

Tue 21st Jan: Year 1 Outdoor Learning

Tue 21st Jan: E-safety Parent Meeting (5.30pm)

Thurs 23rd Jan: Riddiford Shield Inside Football

Mon 27th Jan: Year 3/4 Indoor Netball at SPLC

Mon 27th Jan: FGR Football at Rednock School

Mon 27th Jan: Turquoise class Outdoor Learning

Tue 28th Jan: Indigo class swimming

Tue 28th Jan: Year 1 Outdoor Learning

Tue 28th Jan: Yr 3 Parents Meeting - 2021

Residential (6pm)

Thurs 30th Jan: Outdoor Learning (Reception)

Thurs 30th Jan: Year 6 Girls Netball at Wycliffe

Fri 31st Jan: PTA Quiz Night

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LETTERS

Whole School

New Spring Menu

Year 3/4

Maths Curriculum

Evening

Year 5/6

Living Rainforest Trip

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