



NEWSLETTER No.20

Friday 13th March 2020

OUR VISION: 'Life in all its fullness'

Dear Parents/Carers,

For our welcome for this weeks' newsletter, Mike Allen, one of the school's governors, would like to share this message:

'Over the last term we, as governors, have been invited into school on various occasions to meet with senior leaders, teaching and non-teaching staff and, most importantly, our children. We have met formally as a governing body and we also enjoyed the visits during less formal and unstructured parts of the school day. In early February, all governors were invited into school to celebrate the achievements of our pupils, and to learn about the curriculum and beyond. This was a fabulous day, which demonstrated how our teachers are working enthusiastically to provide the skills and knowledge required for the children's journey through school. A major aspect that always strikes me on my visits are the children's good manners and pupils' keenness to express their views and opinions. Their engagement in lessons is good and they certainly keep their teachers on their toes! There is a seamless transition from playground to classroom, quiet and orderly, with the children immediately ready to engage with the lesson. Children readily use the scrap store at lunchtimes, with older pupils encouraging good relationships by acting as peer mentors. It is encouraging; everyone associated with Minchinhampton C of E Primary Academy is striving to achieve the highest of standards in education. Personally, I can't wait for my next visit!' Mike Allen (Governor).

SCHOOL VISION

QUOTE 20: We often say to the children, 'we're all in this together, adults and children alike.'

'...a communitarian society depends on creating again the opportunity for people to sing together, *walk together, dance together, admire together.*' Eric Fromm 1956

NEWS

Rendcomb Orchestra Day: On Wednesday 11th March, Minchinhampton Orchestra travelled to Rendcomb College. When

we arrived we saw many schools with their different musical instruments! Our destination was the Griffin Theatre. We sat down and had a KitKat and a drink. When everyone was ready we went onto the stage and got placed into positions. I remember looking around and saw trumpets, clarinets, guitars, flutes, bongos, violins, cellos and lots more. The pieces we played were 'Rondo,' 'Doctor Who,' and 'James Bond.' Each song had a different conductor and they all played a musical instrument as well. We practiced our songs and sometimes had a break in between. When we had finished our practice we had lunch. Finally we were ready to perform; we all took our places. I really liked it when we all performed together. There was a wonderful feeling of togetherness and we all felt proud and satisfied at what we had achieved. **By Erin**

Boys Football: The boys football took place on the 11th March 2020. It was a tough game but we got a good result. It was only one game for each team and one team got a 7-0 win, only resulting in one injury! We played Beaudesert and they were really good. The Year 5's and 6's all played together in one team but there was one team who was just Year 5. We all had fun and enjoyed it very much. Our team had good chemistry: we did some good passing which lead us to scoring goals. Our defence was good at blocking every shot. All 4 teams played amazingly! Minchinhampton and Beaudesert teams worked together very well and I think both teams played brilliantly. Even though it ended slightly earlier than we all thought, it was still quite tiring. We did rolling subs, meaning we all got to play and we all played awesomely. After the game we all got hot sausage rolls, KitKats, hot chocolate, brownies and flapjacks. **by Tom**

Girls Football: We went to 'Inside Football' on Tuesday 10th March 2020. We were playing in two teams, a Year 6 team and a Year 4/5 team. There were a lot of schools playing and many of them were good. There were three different courts. Every game was seven minutes each. Both teams playing for Minchinhampton earned eleven points by the end. Unfortunately, we did not get into the final but I think we played very well and we felt very proud of ourselves. We played six games overall, losing and winning. When we were there we saw Joseph Mills, who is the FGR captain and the FGR mascot was there as well. **By Ilyana**



World Book Day & Readathon Update: Peter Pan, Horrid Henry, Pippi Longtocking and Mary Poppins were amongst a hall full of wonderfully imagined book characters beginning their day singing along with the Librarians during their World Book Day inspired assembly. At lunchtime the i-pads and computers were in demand as the library highlighted audio books and the D.E.A.R (Drop Everything And Read) hooter was heard with much excitement throughout the morning and afternoon, when books were read and stories were shared - a combined total of almost 25,000 minutes reading, not far off our Readathon target of 30,000 minutes! The children's book knowledge and observational skills were put to the test in the afternoon when class treasure hunts took place and all the children left for home having received their £1 World Book Day book tokens!

We are almost in reach of our Readathon target of 30,000 minutes of reading - we're currently at 24,615 minutes! We're really hoping to go over and beyond that target by adding the minutes your children have read at home too, so if you haven't returned your sponsorship cards and money yet, please could you bring them to the school office. Remember, the school also gets 20% of the total money raised to spend on books for our school. You can also send your sponsorship via this [website](#). Thank you for all your support

ADMIN

Year 4-6 Cross-Country Event (Monday 16th March): Please return any outstanding permission slips to the school office as soon as possible - thank you.

Year 5/6 'School of Rock' Trip (Monday 23rd March): Please return your completed slips with coach money to the school office, or give permission and pay via the School gateway app. The letter is on the website [here](#). Many thanks.

Data Collection Sheets: If you haven't yet completed and returned your data collection sheet, we would be grateful if you could please come into the office to do so.

Year 3 Cross Country: The event on Monday 16th is now to be for years 4-6 participants only. Year 3 runners will no longer need to attend on that date, and a letter home will follow shortly with further details.

Viney Hill Meeting (Current Year 5): Please note this will now be held on Thursday 19th March from 6-7pm. We apologise that this meeting has been set and reset repeatedly. We were looking to change the itinerary and it took longer than expected.

Country Dancing Festival: Unfortunately, the Country Dancing Festival on Thursday 28th April has been cancelled.

REMINDERS

Please see [here](#) for **Term Dates 2020-21**.

48hrs sickness: Just a reminder to all parents/carers, please could you ensure your child has 48 hours free from sickness and/or diarrhoea before they return to school. Thank you for your understanding.

Break-time Snack: Please can we encourage that your child brings with them a break-time snack everyday as some children who are having hot dinners get hungry at break-time and unfortunately within the older years we are unable to provide them with a snack. Please can we ask if you do provide your child with a snack that it is fruit or veg.

Azure Swimming Parent Helpers Needed: We are still in need of one more volunteer helper on Tues 17th and two more

for both 24th and 31st March. Arrival at school is 12.25pm for a 12.30pm departure, and return by approx 3.00pm. The required help is from poolside only so no need to swim. We'd be very grateful if you are able to help and could let the office know as soon as possible.

From the Ground: Please see information [here](#) regarding a shared School Woodland Project with Oakridge School. Please note children from Minchinhampton Eco Warriors will hopefully be attending a tree planting session on Monday 30th March.

COMING UP:

Orchestra Playing in Assembly (Fri 20th March): Rendcomb College is soon to host an Orchestral Day for pupils in years 5 to 8 who play string, woodwind and brass instruments between grades 1 and 5. Our orchestra will then perform the programme back at school, during our 9 o'clock school assembly on Friday 20th March. Parents of all our orchestra children will be very welcome to join us.

INFO

Bell Lane Car Park Works: The Parish Council have given an update as follows: please be aware that the works to upgrade the Bell Lane car park will resume on Monday 16th March 2020. The works are expected to last for three weeks. Doubtless there will be some disruption and curtailing of normal parking availability for which we apologise in advance.

Coronavirus Update: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-action-plan>

Number of people reading the newsletter: Last week's Newsletter No.19 was read by 272 people, which represents 61.8% of Minchinhampton Academy Parents/Carers. The average Open Rate for the education and training industry is 23.42% (Source: <https://mailchimp.com/resources/email-marketing-benchmarks/>)

Holidays: Since coming back from our February Half Term, 5 families have taken a holiday.

PUPILS

Please enjoy these excerpts from today's Azure class assembly. The verse, inspired by Kit Wright's poem "The Magic Box", has been written by the Year 2 children, and this morning some of them read the poetry aloud for the whole school:

RUBY

I will put in the box...
the squishing of snow on the winter's night,
the princess screaming in a castle,
the swaying trees in the forest.

MOLLY

I will put into my box...

a gummy bear with a rumbling tummy,
a pint of the fizziest lemonade,
a bird tweeting happily in a tree.

LUCAS HE

I will put into the box...

a million turquoise memories seen in Japanese,
the last present of an ancient auntie,
and the first tear of a baby.

DYLAN

I will put into the box...

an eighth day and an invisible Earth,
a baby on a surfboard
and a surfer in a pram.

RUFUS

My box is constructed from fire, tin and iron.

It has paper cuttings on the lid
and lost happy endings in the corners.
The hinges are the claws of tigers.

RAN

I shall swim in my box

in the deepest sea around me,
then wash ashore on a white beach,
the colour of a piece of paper.

DANIEL

I will put in the box...

a colourful sunset streaming away,
the swaying of a tree in a hurricane,
the roaring of a lion as I chop off his mane.

ELLENA

I will put into the box...

a lightning bolt whizzing by
and some of the dirtiest water in the world.

AGATHA

I will put into my box...
ten red dreams spoken in space,
the last word of a king
and the first word of a princess.

VIOLET

I will put in the box...
a thirteenth month and a blue moon,
a fireman on a surfboard
and a surfer on a fire engine.

CHLOE

My box is created from fire, sun and diamonds,
with rainbows on the lid and wishes on the corners.
The hinges are the hand joints of unicorns.

EVIE

I shall read in my box,
in the biggest library,
then pick up another book,
the colour of the ripest strawberries.

PTA

Dates for your Diary:

Easter Egg Hunt (Sunday 29th March, 2pm – 4pm): There will be two routes to choose from depending on the age of the participants. Fliers went out in book bags last week. Entry is £2/child, adults free, and every child will receive an Easter Egg at the end of the hunt. There is a prize for the best Easter Bonnet on display when the hunt starts at 2pm. The form on the bottom of the flier needs to be completed and returned with the appropriate amount of money to the school office by Wednesday 25th March.

Summer Fair (Saturday 20th June, 12pm - 3pm): Plans are well underway with an exciting range of activities from circus skills to a bouncy castle to candy floss. Prepare to be amazed.

Ice-Cream Fridays: Do you love ice-cream Fridays? A new team leader is needed for this to happen! If you can help, please speak to Julia Stitt for further details.

Next PTA Meeting: 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 28th April at 8pm. We would love to see you there.

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 16th Mar: Outdoor Learning (Sky)

Mon 16th Mar: Year 4-6 Cross-Country at TK School

Tue 17th Mar: Outdoor Learning (Year 1)

Tue 17th Mar: Azure class swimming

Thurs 19th Mar: Outdoor Learning (Reception)

Thurs 19th Mar: Viney Hill Meeting (Current Year 5)

Fri 20th Mar: Orchestra Assembly

Fri 20th Mar: KS1 Multiskills at Stratford Park LC

Mon 23rd Mar: Outdoor Learning (Cyan)

Mon 23rd Mar: Year 5/6 'School of Rock' Trip to TK School

Tue 24th Mar: Outdoor Learning (Year 1)

Tue 24th Mar: Azure class swimming

Tue 24th Mar: PATES Open Morning

Thurs 26th Mar: Outdoor Learning (Reception)

Fri 27th Mar: Pentathlon at Stratford Park LC

Sun 29th Mar: Easter Egg Hunt (2pm)

Mon 30th Mar: Outdoor Learning (Indigo)

Tue 31st Mar: Outdoor Learning (Year 1)

Tue 31st Mar: Azure class swimming

Weds 1st Apr: Year 3/4 "The Jungle Book" 1 (1.40pm)

Thurs 2nd Apr: Outdoor Learning (Reception)

Thurs 2nd Apr: Year 3/4 "The Jungle Book" 2 (7.00pm)

Fri 3rd Apr: Last Day of Term

-----**EASTER HOLIDAYS**-----

Mon 20th Apr: Summer Term Begins

Tue 28th Apr: PTA Meeting at Cotswold Club (8pm)

Fri 8th May: INSET Day

[Go to PARENT CALENDAR](#)

LETTERS:

Year 5/6

TK Trip - School of Rock

Sapphire Class

Violin Letter

Cyan Class

Violin Letter

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[SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

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Our mailing address is:

Minchinhampton C of E Primary Academy
School Road
Minchinhampton
Stroud
Gloucestershire
GL6 9BP

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