



MINERVA NEWSLETTER 1

20th September 2024

A warm welcome to everyone at the start of new academic year. I hope that you have all had a good summer and the team at MPA are looking forward to helping everyone settle back into their routines and have another amazing year of learning.

In our early years, we have been busy visiting lots of children and families at home. They have all had a positive start. Building relationships and getting to know each other is an important part of our early years' curriculum. Members of the leadership team are always around in the morning and after school in the playground, on the gate or the barrier to help everyone and answer questions from all families.

Across other parts of the school, year 4 children have started their weekly swimming lessons, Hotwells class are learning to ride a bike so they can use the Hillfields pump track and we welcome back members of Bristol Beacon who are delivering whole class and small group lessons in violin, singing, composition and Rock band!

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend and successful year.

Jenny Harvey Principal



WELCOME TO RECEPTION

Our reception children have made a great start to the new school year and their journey at MPA. They have settled in well and have been enjoying exploring both the inside and outside spaces. We have seen lots of mixing in the mud kitchen, painting in the creative area and some fantastic water play.

The reception team have enjoyed getting to know all the new families and will continue to support our youngest Minerva Citizens to demonstrate safe, respectful learning.



THIS TERM IN CITIZENSHIP (PERSONAL SOCIAL HEALTH EDUCATION)

THE FOCUS IS 'BEING ME IN MY WORLD'

This learning sequence teaches and supports children to know they are part of different teams within our Minerva community. The children discuss, rehearse and review our routines and expectations of '**Safe, Respectful, Learning**', in class, around school and within our wider community.

This unit is crucial in our curriculum to support children's **sense of self, responsibilities and belonging**. It also develops into pupils understanding their place in the global community. In school we have many children modelling to others how they are **taking responsibility for themselves, our environment and others**.

Children in year six have already been litter picking in the playground, wrap around club have been watering and weeding in our nature area and individuals have been helping children who are new to MPA. Well done for being fantastic examples of a **Minerva Global Citizen**.

In assembly we have launched all our pupil leadership roles so children can apply to take on more responsibility and help shape and improve our school. Over the weekend children can apply to become an **ECO warrior, reading champion, Health & Safety representative, Equalities Diversity & Inclusion ambassador, play leader** or **member of the pupil council**. Good luck to everyone!

WELCOME PICNIC



It was lovely to see lots of families brave the very changeable weather on Wednesday for the Welcome Picnic.

Thank you to the Friends of Minerva who volunteered their time to sell refreshments and raise money for the school. It was a lovely opportunity for staff at Minerva to reconnect with families, for parents to socialise and for children to have extra time in the playground to play with friends.

Please remember that staff are available at the end of each day 3:15 - 3:30 if you wish to speak with them, or you can email info@mpa.clf.uk for messages to be passed on to class teachers.

SCHOOL STREETS

Thank you to everyone who continue to drive and park safely and respectfully following the highway code around our school .

Please note the Hillfields Avenue entrance to the Green way is closed with barrier times 8.15-9.00am and 2.45-3.30pm.

We have been made aware of an incident of a car reversing back on the one way system. This has been reported as this is an illegal practice and dangerous around the school site.

If you are parking in the local area, please be mindful of our neighbours' driveways - access is required at all times .

Thank you

YEAR 5—BMX PUMP TRACK

Hotwells have been eagerly anticipating our first trip to the Hillfields pump track to learn about and experience riding BMX bikes. Some of us are very nervous as we are not confident on bikes but are ready to display the ELLI skill of the Starling and be resilient in our efforts to learn how to ride a bike. Others are very excited and confident that they will be joining the 2028 Great Britain Olympic team in Los Angeles.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week commencing Monday 23rd September	Celebrating Harvest at MPA.
Week commencing Monday 23rd September	European Day of Language (26/9/24)
Wednesday 23rd October	Last day of Term 1 for all pupils.
Tuesday 22nd & Wednesday 23rd October 3.00 – 6.00pm	Parents evening.
Thursday 24th & Friday 25th October	INSET DAY – School closed for all pupils.
Monday 4th November	Bike-O-Ween – Children invited to bring their decorated bikes / scooters into school.
Monday 4th November	First day of Term 2 for all pupils.
Tuesday 5th November 3.30 – 5.30pm	Open evening for pupils applying for Reception places in September 2025.
Thursday 14th November 3.30 – 5.30pm	Open evening for pupils applying for Reception places in September 2025.