



MINERVA NEWSLETTER 11

12th June 2026

Welcome to the final term of the academic year. We started with a whole-school assembly where we reflected on our vision for pupils at MPA and explored how we continue to promote and demonstrate an inclusive environment for all. Children used their excellent oracy skills to share ideas and record their learning in their class floor books.

We are incredibly proud of how thoughtfully the children spoke about inclusion and belonging. They explained how we welcome everyone into our school community, support those with physical disabilities by ensuring our environment is accessible, and ensure our curriculum represents and celebrates the diversity of our community.

This term, groups of children have had the exciting opportunity to attend Bristol Beacon to listen to professional musicians, perform alongside children from schools across the city, and showcase their growing instrumental skills. These experiences help to inspire confidence, creativity and a lifelong love of music.

There are many exciting events taking place over the coming weeks, where families will be warmly welcomed into school to celebrate learning with us. These include play afternoons, class visits and opportunities to support children on educational trips.

We greatly value the partnership we have with parents, carers and community leaders. By working together, we can ensure that every child achieves, flourishes and thrives.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,
Jenny Harvey

YEAR 2 SHOWCASE OF LEARNING



It's been a busy and creative time as musicians across the school! Year 2 have been singing, exploring body percussion and starting to learn about other percussion instruments.

Year 3 have loved learning the ukulele and had the fantastic opportunity of performing at the Bristol Beacon.

They are now looking forward to learning the penny whistle. In Years 4, 5 and 6, children have been busy composing their own music each week, growing in confidence as they learn to read and write musical notation.



YEAR 3 SHOWCASE OF LEARNING

Year 3 have enjoyed a jam-packed Term 5! We stepped into the role of authors, writing about *The Iron Man*, creating imaginative characters and writing our own survival guides.

One of the highlights of the term was our visit to Bristol Beacon, where we had the exciting opportunity to play the ukulele alongside other schools and a live band.

The children especially loved performing and showcasing the songs they have been practising in class. In Science, we carried out an experiment to explore what plants need to survive and grow. The children enjoyed watching the cress grow. Well done Y3!



YEAR 5 SHOWCASE OF LEARNING



Year 5 have had a busy and exciting term filled with lots of memorable learning experiences.

Our Citizens focus this term was our relationship with screen time. We discussed the benefits and challenges of technology and explored ways to create healthy habits and maintain a balanced lifestyle.

We enjoyed taking part in Pump Track sessions with Access Sport, where we developed our cycling skills, confidence and resilience. We also welcomed the Explorer Dome into school and deepened our understanding of space through an immersive and interactive experience. In Writing, we have been using *Kensuke's Kingdom* as the stimulus for our writing, pro-

ducing a range of creative pieces. In Geography, we learnt about the River Avon and created our own river models using playdough to explore its features.

As artists, we developed our sculpture skills by creating wire sculptures inspired by different forms and shapes. One of the highlights of the term was Sports Day, where we demonstrated excellent teamwork and determination throughout the day.

We are incredibly proud of all the hard work and enthusiasm Year 5 have shown this term.



YEAR 6 ORACY



At MPA, we believe that oracy is essential in creating lifelong learners and that democracy grows from confident voices. Our pupils learn to express their ideas clearly, listen respectfully and make thoughtful decisions together whether they're debating which pom-pom treats to earn, sharing viewpoints in assemblies or exploring big questions across the wider curriculum. By practising speaking and listening in meaningful, everyday contexts, our pupils discover that their voices matter and that democracy is something they do, not

just something they hear about. Recently our year 6 pupils used their oracy skills to discuss, evaluate and ultimately decide which charity they should fundraise for showing how real democratic participation happens when every voice is heard and valued.

Across the school classes regularly use talk tactics to structure discussion and practise how to agree and disagree respectfully, helping them build the skills needed when sharing thoughts and ideas.



YEAR 6—REFLECTING ON S.A.T.S

Year 6 reflected on their week of S.A.T.S and wrote some poetry about it. They wanted to reassure next year's Year 6 classes about why there was no need to worry!

SATs are over!

SATs oh SATs, you demand applause,
They're callous but for a good cause.
Take a deep breath and just try your best,
You are much more than the score of this test.
No booklet can capture your laughter and grace,
Or the kindness you bring to this wonderful place.
You are more than a score on a government sheet.
Your talents and triumphs are yours to complete.
These questions won't ask if you're loyal or brave,
So don't let a score put your soul in a grave.
Just walk in with pride and do simply your best,
For you are a star far ahead of the test.
So read through the lines and let confidence shine,

Hey Year Sixes, just so you know,
SATs aren't quite the scary show.
They're just some tests you'll take one week
To show the things you've learned to speak.
Some bits feel easy, some feel tough,
Some questions might seem a bit rough,
But do your best—that's all you need,
You've grown so much, and that's the key.
They don't show all the things you are—
Your jokes, your dreams, how kind you are.

This term in citizenship (Personal Social Health and Economic Education) the focus is

'Changing me'



'Changing me' is a unit from Jigsaw that includes sex education. It revisits and extends learning from previous year groups. Within a safe environment and with trusted adults, children will be introduced to new concepts, knowledge and skills in an age-appropriate way.

Children learn about the changes in their body from being a baby and what may change in the future. This will include naming parts of the body and their function. Children are taught that change is a natural and normal part of growing up and the range of emotions that can occur are explored and discussed.

Children practise a range of strategies for managing feelings and emotions. They are also taught where they can get help if worried or frightened.

Thank you to parents who attended our workshop last term to look at the curriculum resources and the progression of lessons from early years to year 6.

MPA SPORTS DAY

MPA sports Day was back for 2026, and excitement was high as we continued the competitive element of winning house tokens. Pupils had to compete various races for their colour houses to win a token. It was an action-packed morning for KS2 and afternoon for KS1. We noticed lots of encouragement and great sportsman ship from our pupils which we promote as athletes.

The overall scores were as follows:

4th place **red house** : 288 points

3rd place **blue house**: 291points

2nd place **green house**: 323 points

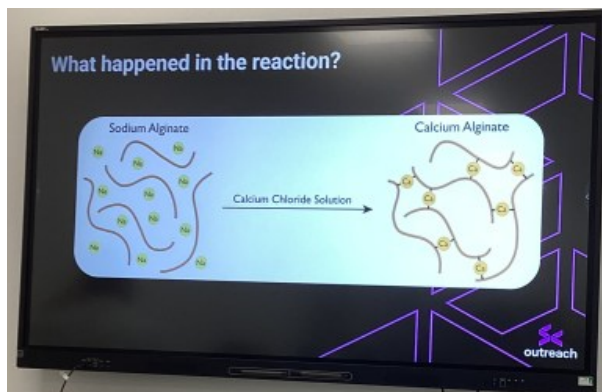
1st place **yellow house**: 358 points.

Well done to everyone involved in what was a wonderful day in our school community.



MINERVA'S PLASTIC BREAKTHROUGH

What an amazing experience Yr5 children had visiting Science create. Not only did they uncover the real, damaging impact of single use plastics on our environment, they also witnessed the power of a simple chemical reaction- transforming seaweed into compostable pods that could be appearing on supermarket shelves sooner than we think.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 12th June	Friends of Minerva Father's day sale in school - more information to follow.
Thursday 25th June	Come and celebrate the International day of play 1.45pm– 3pm.
Wednesday 1st July	MPA Transition day – all children to spend the day with their new teachers in new class.
Thursday 2nd July	International community fayre - more information to follow.
Friday 3rd July	CLF CONFERENCE DAY – School closed to all pupils.
Monday 6th July	We welcome all pupils back into school — gates open 8.40am-8.55am.
Wednesday 8th July	3.30 - 5.30pm -Open evening – Pupils welcome to say goodbye to their old teachers.
Thursday 9th July	Local history pop up event – More information to follow.
Friday 10th July	Friends of Minerva Ice Lolly sale in main playground 3.15pm.
Friday 10th July	Summer showcase - more information to follow.
Tuesday 14th July	Years 3,4,5 & 6 - Parents welcome to join C.L.I.C Showcase of learning 8.45am-9.15am.
Wednesday 15th July	Pre-school & Reception classes - Parents welcome to join WOW Wednesday.
Thursday 16th July	Years 1 & 2 - Parents welcome to join C.L.I.C Showcase of learning 8.45am-9.15am.
Monday 20th July	Friends of Minerva Ice cream sale in main play ground 3.15pm.
Monday 20th July	Year 6 – Leavers Disco & Leavers assembly.
Tuesday 21st July	End of year class parties—more information to follow.
Tuesday 21st July	MPA's Got Talent – more information to follow.