



MINERVA NEWSLETTER 11

23rd July 2024

Over the last few weeks, I have enjoyed reading the end of year reports. It has been a delight to read so many achievements and learning highlights from across the year groups. The children should be feeling proud.

It has been a busy year in and outside of our MPA community. We have welcomed 70 new children to our classes, 6 MPA colleagues have had babies, many trips have taken place and visitors have joined us in school, including OFSTED. We are always proud of our school ethos of **Learning, Believing, Growing, Achieving** but it was brilliant to get our hard work recognised and celebrated.

We continue to teach our **ambitious curriculum** learning as scientist, artists, geographers etc but this year we have also established our Minerva Global Citizens curriculum which teaches children the importance of being **safe, responsible, respectful** and an **active citizen** within our MPA community. It is about promoting **equality of opportunity, an inclusive environment and knowing we all belong**. One highlight has been our groups going into the community to make a difference – litter picking, talking to new people and looking after the Hillfields garden. The other highlight has been our **pupil leadership** groups such as the pupil council, oracy advocates and ECO warriors. Each had their own action plan and achievements to celebrate.

Finally, I want to thank all our wonderful children and families for the support over the year. I wish you all a restful and joy filled summer break.

Jenny Harvey Principal

GREAT NEWS FOR OUR Y6 CHILDREN AS WE SAY GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

We want to share with all families our best ever Y6 SATs results. **MPA children have achieved better than national outcomes in reading, writing, maths and SPAG (spelling, punctuation & grammar)**



At the Y6 expected standard our children achieved	At the Y6 higher standard our children achieved
Combined: 80% (61%)	Combined: 3% (8%)
Reading: 90% (74%)	Reading: 38% (29%)
Writing: 85% (69%)	Writing: 5% (13%)
Maths: 85% (71%)	Maths: 25% (24%)
SPAG: 83% (72%)	SPAG: 40% (30%)
(National headline figure 2024 in brackets)	(National headline figure 2023 in brackets)

80% achieved combined which means they met the expected standard in reading, writing & maths. expected standard in reading, writing & maths. The outcomes demonstrate great academic achievements for our children as they move on into secondary school. However, at MPA we also value and are proud of our curriculum that provides opportunities for every child to grow and develop personally. Children have all shown they have developed **self-agency** by taking responsibility to work hard in

school and at home to complete their weekly home learning tasks. There have also been many times when they have needed to be **resilient** and maintain a **growth mindset** when learning or the situation has not been easy. They have also learnt the importance of learning from others both the adults and their peers to establish positive **learner relationship** and connect and **making meaning** across areas of learning.

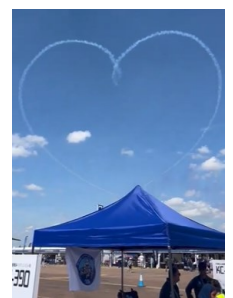
These outcomes would not have been possible without the **continued support of families** throughout children’s primary journey; hearing children read daily, encouraging the completion of home learning and ensuring children are in school as much as possible. We all wish out Year 6 well.

AIR TATTOO SHOW



Year 5 had the opportunity to see spectacular air shows and amazing planes and helicopters at the Air Tattoo Show. They even went inside and admired a cargo plane!

We sang songs in the bus and spent a really nice day together. A wonderful experience that we will never forget.



FRIENDS OF MINERVA—THANK YOU

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents who have supported us this year. We have been able to raise an amazing £1,500. With this we have been able to purchase:

- New playground equipment.
- Wet play games for each classroom.
- Supply each class with chalk.
- Subsidise the Christmas Panto show.
- Year 6 leavers gifts.
- Organise an Easter hunt for the whole school with prizes.



All the money that is raised, goes back to the school children. We are talking to the staff in school to find the best way to use the money raised this year, so it benefits all.

We rely on volunteers to run the events & sales, so if you are interested & have some free time to give please get in touch on: friendsofmpa@gmail.com.

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER FAYRE - THE COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR!



On Friday 12th July the fantastic friends of Minerva (FOM) put on a wonderfully inclusive and joyful community event. Not only was there delicious food to buy, stalls selling plants and home made crafts and games devised by the children across the school but there were also events throughout the evening.

The event was opened by The Black Sheep choir who wowed us with their a capella singing. This was quickly followed by a child led (with the help of Mr Howells) flash mob of one of their favourite songs 'Wonder'.

A highlight and something that the children really looked forward to was the fashion show - a chance to celebrate the multi cultural diversity of our community and show off their catwalk moves!

A big well done to everyone who entered the bake off competition. It was too tricky to choose one winner so we had seven! Well done to Karina, Onni, Dante, Lola, Isra, Indiana and Roxy who all stuck to the brief and make cakes that represented a country or countries.

The year group games were very popular, especially sponge a teacher, and the money raised will go back to the year groups to help replenish activities for wet play.

Finally, it is important that we recognise the hard work, hours of planning and commitment that goes in to making these events so joyful and inclusive - thank you to Friends of Minerva (Reissa, Noelle, Natalie, Toni, Michelle). A special thank you goes to Reissa who has been chair of FOM and the driving force behind the events this school year and she will be stepping down from this role next week - Thank you on behalf of the whole school community.



If you would like to be involved with future events, either helping on the day to run a stall or helping more regularly to plan and set up events then please email friendsofmpa@gmail.com.



MPA PUPIL COUNCIL VISIT TO KINGS OAK ACADEMY

At the beginning of the year, the newly appointed pupil council decided on their priorities. They created an action plan, shared it with their class and started work on achieving their goals.

As a result, they devised and launched our new ELLI reward cards with the whole school going on a hunt to find the different animals that represent the learning powers. The pupil council also discussed and debated with their classes how they would raise money and which charity Team MPA would support. In May, we all had the opportunity to meet Dotty, the small owl who we have sponsored to look after. The pupil council's final aim was to improve playtime routines and play. Children across the school report that they now enjoy our new game of the week, the different resources we have bought such as elastics and it is great to have pupil play leaders.

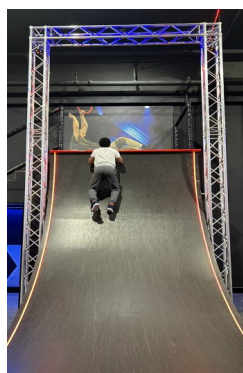


To celebrate a fantastic year and to share all the impressive things they love about Minerva, pupil from Kings Oak Academy visited our school in April. This term our pupil council visited their school. Each time we learnt a bit more about each other from a tour and asking lots of questions. We hope to keep up our partnership.

YEAR 6 HOOKE COURT & NINJA WARRIOR

Year 6 have had a fabulous week! Children who went on camp to Hooke Court have enjoyed many activities, such as a mud obstacle course, cooking local produce, a farm visit and rocket making.

The children were exceptionally well-behaved and tidy! At Basecamp, we walked to Vassall's Park, tackled the Ninja Warrior obstacle courses, and made our own 3 course lunch at school. All the children were able to experience enrichment activities that will help to prepare them for the future. Not long to go now until Secondary School!



WE ARE MUSICIANS



Another marvellous year as musicians at MPA. Year 2 have enjoyed singing a range of songs working on their tempo, dynamics and pitch. Year 3 have learnt a range of instruments from glockenspiels to penny whistles.

Our viola and violin players have continued to develop their skills. All our children performed with pride during our Summer Showcases, a real highlight of our year. A huge thank you to the Bristol Beacon who continue to support our musical development and foster a love of all things music!

WONDERFUL WORLD

This week year one was lucky enough to have a visit from Rev Pippa and her team. We explored the theme "Wonderful World" and talked about summer and all the lovely things



we can enjoy in the summer time. The children got to decorate mini plant pots and plant their own seeds to grow at home over the summer. We also planted some things in the planters in our playground for all of us to enjoy.

MINERVA MURAL

Everyone in MPA has worked hard this term to create a 'Minerva' mural. We used our collage art skills to design and create a year group letter. We created the mural using recycled materials to help with our Green Flag Eco award. Now is the hard work of finding somewhere for our fantastic letters to go!



CAREERS WEEK

On the week starting 8th of July, our children took part in several discussion about careers and aspirations. We thought about what skills we would need to do the jobs that interested us. Through an assembly, children shared what career they would like to have and what ELLI skills they would need to achieve these goals.

Professionals met with the children to discuss their career and provided children opportunities to ask questions to further their knowledge about the job.

Zach said he would like to be a professional gamer -he explained resilience is needed for this job, in case something doesn't go the way he had originally planned. Another child said they would like to be a plasterer - which meant they would need to show great concentration skills and listen to instructions.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 23rd July	Last day of term 6 for pupils.
Monday 2nd September	INSET DAY—School closed for pupils.
Tuesday 3rd September	INSET DAY—School closed for pupils.
Wednesday 4th September	First day of Term 1—we welcome all students back to school. Gates open 8.40am.
Wednesday 11th September	Welcome picnic 3.30pm—4.00pm.
Wednesday 25th September	European day of language—more details to follow.
Tuesday 15th October	C.L.I.C (Child learning in class) Yrs 3, 4, 5 & 6 –Reading
Wednesday 16th October	WOW Wednesday—Pre-school & Reception classes
Thursday 17th October	C.L.I.C (Child learning in class) Yrs 1 & 2 –Reading
Tuesday 22nd October	Parents evening
Wednesday 23rd October	Parents evening
Thursday 24th October	INSET DAY—School closed for pupils.
Friday 25th October	INSET DAY—School closed for pupils.