



MINERVA NEWSLETTER 9

24th May 2024

Term 5 has again been full of fantastic learning in and outside every classroom: termly visits to the library, visitors to MPA, year group trips and celebrations. Our nature area is now being used and enjoyed by children at lunchtime and after school. Classes have also taken their learning outside as scientists, geographers and Minerva Global Citizens.

Whilst amazing learning and enrichment opportunities have been happening across the academy, I wanted to share just how proud I am of our Year 6 children.

Over their time at MPA, children have developed their **self-agency** and been supported by families to enable them to demonstrate their knowledge. The whole MPA team have worked hard to ensure that teaching, support and belief for all children over the years has enabled every child to start and end their week of SATs positively. Our ethos of **'Learning, Believing, Growing and Achieving'** has really shone through. During the week children have spoken about embracing challenge because of their **growth mindset**, having **resilience** when a question required them to think hard and keep going, the support they have from their peers and the team with the strong **learner relationships** they have developed and how they were able to **make sense and meaning** of questions because their learning over time has stuck.

Regardless of outcomes in July, they are all stars and have grown as capable young people academically and socially learning the skills and knowledge they will need for secondary and as lifelong learners.

Jenny Harvey
Principal

RAISING ASPIRATIONS- 8th July - 10th July

In term 6, week commencing 8th of July, we are hoping to have parents or other key adults come in to speak with the children about the jobs they have. We are keen to expose the children to a variety of possible careers that may be accessible to them in the future and to spark their imagination about jobs that may be of interest to them! The questions we hope to cover are:

- What is your job?
- What do you love about your job?
- What skills, knowledge or training do you need?
- What is the best careers advice you could offer?



If you have an hour to spare to talk with some of our KS2 children in relation to your career, then please speak to Miss Hudson in the playground in the mornings or email the school (info@mpa.clf.uk) with the subject line "**Miss Hudson Careers**"

YEAR 6 WE ARE HISTORIANS

Year 6 have been learning about the Ancient Greek Gods and Goddesses. They have produced PowerPoint presentations about their chosen Gods, and the monuments that were built in their honour to share with the class.

We have been impressed by how hard children have worked all year and in their recent SATs.

Mrs Hill and Miss Mitchell Year 6 Teachers



DOTTY THE OWL CAME TO MPA



On Friday 3rd May we had a very special visitor at Minerva Primary Academy... Dotty the 'Little Owl'. As a school we wanted to raise money for something important so in December every year group had a stall at the Winter Fayre to raise money. The pupil school councillors decided that we should sponsor an owl and so we did!

Dotty is a 'little owl' and came to visit us along with another owl, Severus a barn owl. Dotty lives at the North Somerset Bird of Prey centre and by sponsoring her as a community we are helping to look after her - giving her somewhere safe to stay and plenty of care and food. Andrew who works at the centre spoke to the school in an assembly to tell us lots of facts about Dotty but also about other owls too. The children were fantastic at asking questions, listening and learning. You can see more photos on X (formally twitter): <https://twitter.com/MinervaCLF>

[MinervaCLF](https://twitter.com/MinervaCLF)

The North Somerset Bird of Prey centre (**Smallway Leisure Park, Smallway, Congresbury, BS49 5AA**) is focussed on conservation and education and it is only open to visitors nine times across the year. Below are the dates it is next open if you would like to visit:

Sunday 2nd June, 7th July, 4th August, 18th August, 1st September, 6th October

After the assembly some children and teachers were inspired and visited on Sunday 5th May. Some children were really lucky and got to hold Dotty! If you visit, please tell us about it.



SUN SAFETY



As we are finally starting to see more sunshine and less rain it is a good time for everyone in our school community to think about how we can enjoy the warmer weather while also protecting ourselves.

We encourage all children to make sure they are applying a suncream, also known as spf, before they come to school. You can provide your child with suncream to reapply before lunchtime; they will need to be able to do this independently and suncream can not be shared in case of allergies. We will support and remind children to wear a hat when outside during playtimes and

lunchtimes to protect themselves during the hottest parts of the day. Please make sure that these are named so they can be returned if lost.

If it is a particularly hot day we may make the decision to adjust playtimes. For example the children will have a longer break in the morning when the playground is cooler and more shaded and then have a shorter lunch break to avoid the sun at the hottest part of the day.

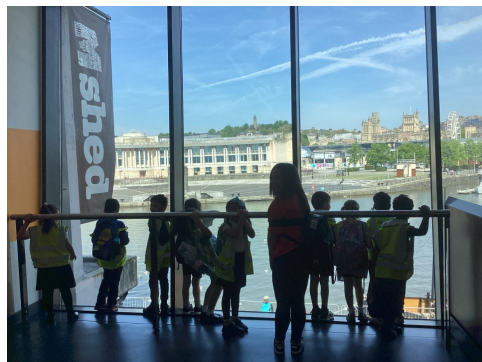
Previously during heatwaves we have encouraged children to come to school in their PE kits (white school t-shirt and black shorts) to help stay cool. We will let you know via text message if this change to uniform is needed.

Not only is protecting skin and staying cool important during warmer weather but it is also important to stay hydrated. All children should be bringing to school a refillable/reusable water bottle every day. Children are able to use the sink in their classroom to refill throughout the day.

There is lots of advice on the NHS website around sun safety, please use this link to read more: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/sunscreen-and-sun-safety/>

YEAR 1 M-SHED TRIP

Yr1 children had a wonderful trip to the M-Shed on a sunny, May day last week. They enjoyed the museum itself then did a workshop on Ships & Sailors, where they tried out the jobs and learnt about life aboard. Would they choose the sailor's life back in the 1800s? 'No, because I wouldn't have liked the food' said one child. Another said 'Yes because the sea looked twinkly.'



YEAR 2 WE ARE SCIENTISTS.

Last week year 2 were busy learning as Scientists.

We have built on last terms Explorer Dome visit where we were lucky enough to engage in practical activities to demonstrate how our digestive system works.



We wrote fact files about the human body systems and how they work. We looked at our skeletal system and worked in partners to draw around each other and identify some bones and organs inside our bodies.

Did you know that as babies we have up to 300 bones but as we grow this reduces to 206! Ask year 2 for more amazing facts about the body!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 3rd June 8.40am	We welcome all pupils back for Term 6. Gates open at 8.40am.
Wednesday 5th June 9.15am –10.30am	Pre-school & Reception Sports day in school
Wednesday 5th July	INSET DAY School closed to all pupils
Thursday 11th July 2pm Friday 12th July 9.20am	Year 6 Performance
Tuesday 16th July 8.45am—9.15am	Years 1 & 2 C.L.I.C (Child learning in class)
Wednesday 17th July 8.45am—9.15am	Pre-school & Reception WOW Wednesday
Thursday 18th July 8.45am—9.15am	Years 3, 4, 5, & 6 C.L.I.C (Child learning in class)
Thursday 18th July	Menu change—more details to follow.
Friday 19th July	Summer show case—more information to follow
Monday 22nd July 9.15am—10.00am	Year 6 leavers assembly
Tuesday 23rd July	Last day of term 6 for pupils.