



# MINERVA NEWSLETTER 9

## 2nd April 2026

We have come to the end of another busy term filled with fantastic learning, memorable trips, and wonderful opportunities to welcome families into school for exhibitions and classroom visits. You can continue to keep up to date with in class learning through our new year group Dojo platforms, as well as our updated Facebook posts.

This term we were delighted to welcome colleagues from other Cabot Learning Federation primary schools. Collaboration is an important part of our work, allowing us to share best practice so that children across the Southwest can benefit. The MPA team both adults and children always enjoy connecting with others and are proud to talk about what makes MPA such a special place.

Last week, we also hosted an external expert who moderated samples of our children's writing. We are incredibly pleased with the progress our pupils are making, and many across each year group are now working at the higher standard of greater depth.

We are also proud to share that our Early Years team has achieved their third consecutive year of recognition through the Bristol Standard. This award is recognised nationally and internationally as an outstanding framework supporting ongoing improvement and high quality early education.

A huge thank you to our children, families, and dedicated staff who together make up Team MPA. Through our shared commitment and hard work, we ensure that every child receives a rich, high quality education that supports their social, emotional, and academic development.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful Easter break.

Warm regards

Jenny Harvey

Principal

### RECEPTION CLASS—SHOWCASE OF LEARNING



This term, Reception have been diving into *Understanding the World* by becoming enthusiastic young geographers. The children began their learning journey by exploring maps of our local area, carefully studying landmarks and excitedly pointing out familiar places such as the local park and the library.

Inspired by **Percy the Park Keeper**, the children then took part in a special treasure hunt. Using their map reading skills, they navigated their way around the playground and to everyone's delight, they even uncovered **real buried treasure!**



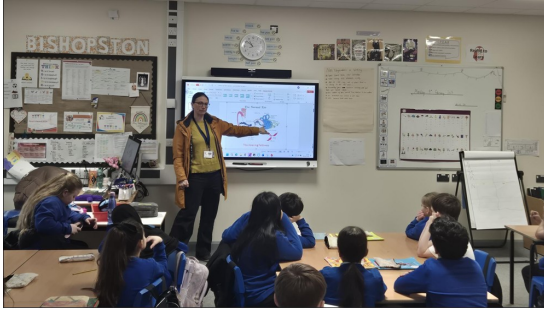
As their curiosity grew, so did the scale of their explorations. Reception have now begun investigating world maps, discovering fascinating places across the globe including **Antarctica, Kenya, and the Amazon Rainforest**. They have also been learning about the many wonderful countries their own families come from.

Through this work, the children are building a strong sense of place, community, and connection to the wider world — a wonderful foundation for their learning as they continue to explore and understand the world around them.



## YEAR 4 -WE ARE SCIENTISTS

Year 4 were delighted to welcome the Sensory Support Team as part of their Science learning on *Sound*. During the session, pupils discovered how we hear and explored the different parts of the ear in an engaging and practical way.



To deepen their understanding, the children took part in a unique spelling activity where only some of the sounds were audible.

This helped them experience what a person with hearing loss might hear and encouraged thoughtful discussion about how sound is perceived differently by everyone.

It was an eye opening and memorable visit, enjoyed by all!

## AT MPA-WE ARE ATHLETES

Our students have been busy developing a wide range of skills across the PE curriculum this term!



**Years 1 & 2** have been focusing on *fundamental ball skills*, working on their ability to roll, bounce, catch, and control a ball with growing confidence. These foundations support coordination, teamwork, and overall physical literacy.

**Years 3 & 4** have been learning about *sending and receiving*, exploring different ways to pass and control objects using hands, feet, and equipment. They've shown great improvement in accuracy, timing, and working cooperatively with partners.

**Years 5 & 6** have been focusing on *seated balance and floorwork*, developing strength, stability, and control through balance challenges and creative movement tasks.

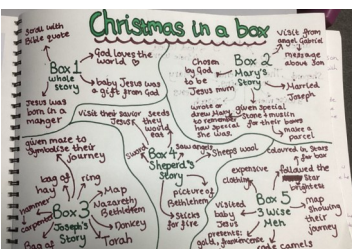
In addition, **Year 5** have had an exciting opportunity to visit the *Hillfields Pump Track*, where they've been learning cycling skills and developing their BMX confidence. Their bravery, determination, and progress have been fantastic to see!

**Year 6** will begin their swimming lessons next term. We're looking forward to seeing them develop their water confidence and essential swimming skills.

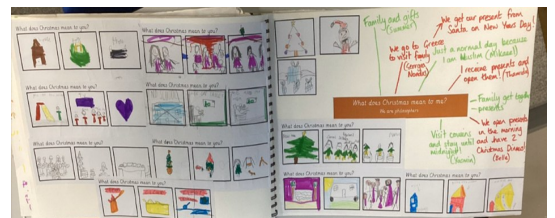
Well done to all our young athletes for their enthusiasm, effort, and willingness to take on new challenges this term!

## AT MPA- WE ARE PHILOSOPHERS

Over the winter term, our classes have been exploring Christmas and different celebrations through their Philosophy learning. We are also looking forward to welcoming Encounter Christianity, who will be leading workshops with Year 2 and Year 4 before the Easter holidays.

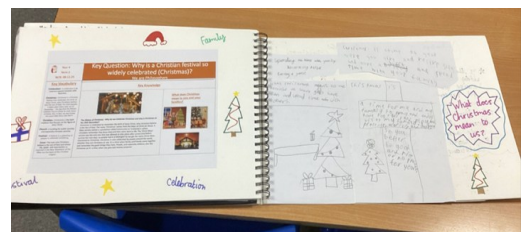


Year 1 have been enjoying learning about Christianity and are excited to be visiting a local church next week to explore a Christian place of worship.



This week, class teachers have also been learning about Ramadan and Eid with the children. There has been lots of excitement around Eid, and we hope all of our families who celebrated had a wonderful time Eid Mubarak!

If you would like to share any family Eid photos with your child's class teacher, please send them to [info@mpa.clf.uk](mailto:info@mpa.clf.uk), including 'FAO X' (your child's class teacher's name) in the subject line.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	Good Friday—School closed to all pupils.
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	We welcome all students back to school – Gates open 8.40am.
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2pm</b>	Year 6 parent FGM (Female genital mutilation) meeting.
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	Reception – Yr 6 Parent <a href="#">Relationships, Sex and Health Education</a> (RSHE) (See separate letter).
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Bank holiday Monday – School closed o all pupils.
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Welcome all pupils back to school – Gates open at 8.40am & close at 8.55am.
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Class photos.
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Friends of Minerva Ice cream sale in the main playground.
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May- 9.15am-10.15am</b>	Pre-school & reception –Sports day.
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 9.30am – 10.30am</b>	Years 3,4,5 & 6 – Sports day.
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2.00pm -3.00pm</b>	Years 1 & 2 – Sports day.
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 3.15pm</b>	Friends of Minerva – Ice Lolly sale in the main playground.

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