



MINERVA NEWSLETTER 4

22nd October 2020

At the end of an eight-week term, I want to say a huge thank you to all those that make up our fantastic MPA community. Parents and carers who have supported our high expectations on uniform, attendance and behaviour for learning. The staff team who continue to work extremely hard to provide daily quality learning now both in school and at home. Finally, to the children who make every day a joy with their growth mindset and curiosity to learn .

One highlight this week was when I walked around school with a cameraman who was filming for new prospective parents. In class children were engaged with their learning and in the playground, children were having fun enjoying and exploring the different zones with their friends. As he left, he said the school was amazing and had a real warmth and friendliness to it. Lots of children wanted to share their positive experiences of being a pupil at Minerva. This has been echoed by parents in verbal comments to staff and in our recent survey. We appreciate you taking the time to feedback to us. Hopefully, the film will be on the website next week.

I wish you all a safe and restful half term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd November.

Jenny Harvey (Principal)

CHANGES TO SCHOOL START AND END TIMES

To ensure children and families don't become wet and cold as we approach winter, we are reducing the time bubbles are open. This way children can get in to class quicker and families are not waiting to collect siblings for so long.

Year Group	Start time	Collection time
Reception, 1 & 2	8.30-8.40am	3.00pm
3	8.40am	3.10pm
4	8.45am	3.15pm
5	8.45am (Main reception)	3.15pm (Main reception)
6	8.50am	3.20pm

Thank you in advance for your support with these changes.

ATTENTION YEAR 6 PARENTS!

If your child was born between 1st September 2009 and 31st August 2010 you need to apply for a new year 7 secondary place for your child.

Dead line to apply is midnight October 31st 2020

Please apply through your local authority.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 2nd November

First day of Term 2 for pupils

Friday 6th November, 9.05am

Year 4 Parents/Carers- Meet our Principal, Mrs Harvey & Family Support Worker, Mrs Crossley (Please book through the office.)



Thank you for cycling your child to Minerva Primary Academy. When your child/children are cycling to school, could you please provide bike locks and make sure that their bicycles/scooters are locked. Users of the bike shed do so at their own risk. The management will not accept responsibility for damage, accident or loss'

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Throughout the school, we have been celebrating significant figures in past and current black history.

Here you can see an example of the Year 4 children's work. Look out for more examples in next month's newsletter.



PARENT/CARER SURVEY:

Thanks for all the feedback we received. It was lovely to hear lots of positive comments about school life, the way we are managing the ongoing situation, and that the online resources are helpful.

It was also really helpful to hear about things we can do better. With regards to specific issues raised:

- We are looking at moving towards setting up an online payment system for dinner money, trips, etc and hope to have more information about this for you in the new year.
- We will also be planning workshops around different areas of learning and using Teams at home - dates will be shared next term.
- We are reviewing our communication methods based on your feedback too - we hope you will feel this has improved and become more straightforward from next term.



Parent Zone's digital parenting week this year coincides with half term.

Check out the website for more info, free resources to use with your family and meet Ollee - a new virtual friend app that shares helpful messages with children.

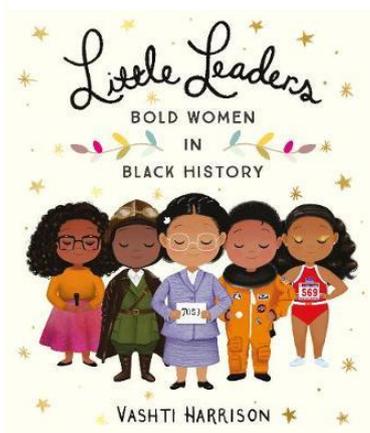
<https://parentzone.org.uk/DPW20>



A very big thank you to all of you who donated food tins and toiletry products for our chosen charity, Kingswood Young Homeless Project. You were very generous and they were delighted with our donation. Thank you

MISS RODEN'S BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History
by Vashti Harrison



Featuring 40 trailblazing black women in the world's history, this book educates and inspires as it relates true stories of women who broke boundaries and exceeded all expectations.

ART EXHIBITION!



Open to all year groups; new or practised artists alike.

We need your pictures

You can use any medium (paint, drawing, chalks, charcoal, collage etc) to express your creativity and interpretation on the theme '**CURIOSITY**'.

All entries to be submitted by the **1st November** and selected art will be shown on the very first MPA Virtual Art Exhibition.

For mounting the finished pieces, please make your artwork **15cm x 20cm**.

Don't forget to put your name, class, and year on the back.