



MINERVA NEWSLETTER 7

20th December 2019



Dear parents & carers,

As we come to the end of term 2 I thought it would be good to remind everyone of some of the great things that have happened this term: Phase one of our playground is now complete and the children are really making the most of what is on offer. Phase two takes place in February, when we will be having a new covered outdoor eating area and astro turf installed in the football/basketball court.

The children enjoyed an amazing experience with a visit from the explorer dome, as part of their 'being a scientist' topic. Year 6 visited the life skills centre and Year 2 enjoyed a visit to Redland Church to learn about the Christmas story. We have also had a visit from 'living streets' to learn how to be safe around traffic.

Thank you to all the families who attended the nativity and the winter singing by candlelight. The children really enjoyed having the chance to perform in front of an appreciative audience.

I would like to thank you for all your support this term and wish you a happy Christmas. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year on Tuesday 7th January.

Best wishes, Mr Hallam.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 6th January:

INSET day – School closed to pupils

Tuesday 7th January:

First day of Term 3

Friday 14th February:

Last day of Term 3

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Bags to School collection

Friends of Minerva fundraising - If you are having a clear out over the holiday please bring any unwanted clothes in bags to Mrs Archer. The school will receive money for the weight of each bag which will be collected on **30th January**.

Wacky Wardrobe Day

In January (date to be confirmed) the day we all love is back! Come dressed to school as silly as you can and bring a donation for Friends of Minerva.

SAFEGUARDING

While this time of year can be full of fun and laughter for many people, we are also aware that it can also be a challenging and stressful time too. If you need support, or are concerned about another family, then you can **call First Response** at any time over the break on **0117 9036444**. The safeguarding team wish you a very safe and healthy festive break.

WELCOME

As we say farewell and good luck to Mrs Massey (Yr 1-Speedwell class), who goes on maternity leave after the Christmas holiday, we welcome Mrs O'Regan who will cover the class in the New Year.

Miss Kalliora will be leaving us and we have appointed Miss McGuinness who will take over in Yr 2-Bedminster class in January. I am sure that you will join me in wishing Miss Kalliora all the best for the future.

Mrs Platts returns to us in January from her maternity leave, to share teaching with Mrs Dymmok-Morgan in one of the reception classes and Miss Sarah Roden joins the school in January as the new Assistant Principal.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - Thank you to everyone for your donation - we raised £91.57 for Save the Children.

WINTER FAYRE - A **HUGE THANK YOU** to our Friends of Minerva for a wonderful Winter Fayre - we raised a school record £783.10!

Thank you also to our fantastic 'Bagel Helpers' this term, who have braved the rain and wind to serve bagels every morning to the children. We are so grateful for all your help this term! If you'd like to volunteer to support please let the office or Mrs Archer know.

SCHOOL PICK UP

If you need to change the collection arrangements for your child/ren at the end of the school day please can you let the school office know **by 1.30pm**. This will help us deliver messages to the class teacher by the end of the day and help to prevent any confusion. We cannot guarantee the phone will be answered or your voicemail message delivered to class after this time.

Please remember to collect along with your child, their coat and lunch box etc. If items are forgotten they can be collected the following day.

Thank you for your co-operation at such a busy time of day.

Please note the school office is closed from 4pm each day.

CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE KEYHOLE



Year 2 had a fantastic time on our trip to Redland Parish Church on 6th December.

We loved going into Mary's home, looking at clues about the nativity characters, we decorated cookies and even met a 'real' baby Jesus!

WHAT'S ON AT HILLFIELDS FAMILY HUB & LIBRARY?

Tuesdays

School-Run Social term time, 3.15pm-4.30pm

A chance for parents to meet over a cuppa and the kids to play board games

Children's Chess Club 3.30pm-4.30pm

Crafternoon 2pm-4pm For all ages

Wednesdays

School-Run Social term time, 3.15pm-4.30pm

A chance for parents to meet over a cuppa and the kids to play board games

Baby Bounce term time 2.15pm-2.45 pm

Pre-school Storytime term time, 2.45pm-3.15pm

Colouringnoon 2pm-4pm For all ages

Over 50s Friendship group second Weds of month, 3pm

A chance to socialise over a cuppa. (External organisation.)

B.C.C.Housing Officer Drop-in. 3rd Wednesday of month. 2pm-4pm.

Fridays

Councillors' Surgery 9.30am-11.30am last Friday of the month

Saturdays

Children's Comics Crafternoon 2pm-4pm



At the end of term 2, school attendance was **96.2%**. **THANK YOU** to those families who have been supportive of our attendance policy.

This improvement moves us above national of 96.1% (October 2019) for the first time!

Currently we have **156** children with attendance **above 97%** which means about 1 days absence since September.

30 children have attendance **below 90%**. This means they have already had **at least 16 days absent** from school since September.

Please talk to the office if you would like a copy of your child's attendance, or you can speak to Miss Crossley or Mrs Harvey if we can help improve attendance.

Class attendance up to the end of term 2 The aim for all children is 97%+

1 st	Easton (Miss Long)	97.3%
<i>(Easton class reward- Mufti day 19th December)</i>		
2 nd	Henbury (Mrs Cox)	97.1%
2 nd	St George (Miss Moreton)	97.1%
4 th	Redland (Miss Bennett)	96.9%
5 th	Lawrence Hill (Miss Wright)	96.6%
6 th	Clifton (Mr Lawton)	96.3%
7 th	Bedminster (Miss Kalliora)	96.2%
8 th	Speedwell (Mrs Massey)	95.6%
9 th	Fishponds (Mrs Armstrong)	95.1%
10 th	Filton (Miss Wildblood)	94.8%
11 th	Westbury (Mrs Hill)	94.3%
12 th	Kingswood (Mrs DM)	93.4%

**Well done to all classes above 96.1%
(national standard)**

HILLFIELDS YOUTH CLUB

Youth club is on **Fridays 5-7pm**
(for Junior school pupils aged 8-11 years old).

50p per session.