



THE MINSTER JUNIOR SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER VOLUME 8 JULY 18 2024



See You In September!

Inset days (Staff Training)

Monday 2nd September

Tuesday 3rd September

Back To School

**All pupils in for their first day
of school**

Wednesday 4th September

Care



JULY

AUGUST



School Values

The school value of the month
of July is Care



Care is an important value which relates to showing care for both living beings and non-living things. By showing care, we show respect, we show appreciation, and we show love

Bible citation:

"Instead, be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you through Christ."

Ephesians 4:32

Some symbols of care:

When we show care to people, we support them and we are eager to help them.

The Bible is full of stories demonstrating care, such as The Good Samaritan, Moses and the Pharaoh's daughter, Joseph the Dreamer, Jesus and the Tax Collector, and many, many more.

How does 'The Good Samaritan' show the value of care? Tell someone in your family or your friend.

Do you know of any other famous stories that have care as their theme? Tell your teacher.

How can we observe the value of care at school and at home?

We can care for our friends if they get hurt during playtime.

We show care for all adults by showing them respect.

We can care for our class by using the resources wisely.

We can care for our brothers and sisters by looking after them.

We can care for the environment by not littering.

Year 3 Learning

This month, the Year 3s visited Cannizaro Park in Wimbledon to consolidate our learning on plants, our science topic for this half term. The day prior to the visit, the children learnt about the different parts of a flower. The park's lovely herb and flower garden was open for exploration, and the children were excited to showcase their understanding of the topic and identify different types of plants they recognised. Despite the warm temperatures, the children had a brilliant time! Cannizaro Park is a wonderful place to visit- perhaps somewhere you could explore over the summer holiday!



Year 4 Learning



In science, Year 4 completed several different experiments using: Boomwhackers of different lengths, plastic and glass water bottles with varying amounts of water, a guitar and thick/thin elastic bands. We were intrigued to discover how features of an object affect the pitch of the sound it makes. In our books, we recorded our results, finding that the shortest Boomwhacker had the highest pitch, the plastic and glass bottles with the least amount of water had the lowest pitch, the first string on the guitar had the highest pitch and the thickest elastic band string had the lowest pitch.



Year 5 Learning



Year 5 visited Park Hill allotments for the very first time! Here is an account of the visit by Year 5.

As we entered the allotment we were greeted by a gardener. Jane told us some very interesting facts. First, she explained there were 40 plots and that every owner on the allotment 'works with nature'. Jane also explained that they had a Bug Hotel, to ensure all the good bugs could stay and be protected. She said, 'The hotel is their home, it was built so the bugs could eat their food and be safe.'



After that, Jane took us to her plot (she rents it for £1.20 per week). We all thought that was very reasonable. On Jane's plot there were raspberries, sweet peppers, potatoes, butter beans and thyme and mint. We even got to hold and smell them. It was really fun to learn outside, thank you to all the Year 5 teachers for giving us a great experience!

Year 5 spend the day in Greenwich!

Have you ever wondered where the Meridian line is in the U.K?

Well, Year 5 visited it last week!

The meridian line in Greenwich represents the Prime Meridian of the world, Longitude Zero (0° 0' 0"). Every place on the Earth is measured in terms of its angle east or west from this line. Since 1884, the Prime Meridian has served as the reference point for Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).



As you can see the children were able to put one foot in the East and one foot in the West!

The line runs across the courtyard of the Royal Observatory and was adopted by international agreement to the irritation of the French who continued to use the Paris meridian.

Year 6 Learning

Community Engagement

In the first week of term, each of our Year 6 classes took turns to visit central Croydon's shopping area in order to conduct research about the local population's religious beliefs, and to find out what foods they traditionally ate to celebrate religious holidays.

This was part of our 'Faith in the Community' learning and entailed the children thinking carefully about the questions they would ask.

The children's presence in the high street was well received, with most people asked to complete the questionnaire willing to spare five minutes to talk with the children. Several members of the public approached staff (who were keeping a close eye on proceedings) and complimented the children for their politeness and showing an interest in the local population's faiths.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience of interviewing members of the public and were almost reluctant to return to school, even though it was nearing lunchtime!

Once back in the classrooms, the results of the surveys were compiled, analysed and discussed. The children then went on to plan a menu for a community feast that contains dishes which all sections of the community can enjoy.



Year 6 Learning

From Wednesday 3rd July, through to Friday 5th July, about half of our Year 6 pupils were fortunate enough to experience a two-night trip to PGL's 'Marchants Hill' outdoor activity centre which is located in the countryside just south of Guildford. Once we arrived, the children enjoyed eating their packed lunch and then went on a tour of the centre's facilities. Soon, the children were split into groups and headed off to enjoy a programme of activities that kept them fully engaged and motivated over the next few days. The activities included:



Archery
Giant Swing
Problem Solving
Zip Wire
Tunnel Maze
Climbing Wall
Jacob's Ladder
Buggy Build
Campfire Singsong
Disco



It's safe to say that all of the pupils had a great time and everyone displayed great determination, bravery and teamwork to complete the activities. The children also really enjoyed the food with cooked breakfasts, lunches and dinners available - many went for second helpings!

Some photos of the activities are shown on the next page, but if you'd like to see more, just visit the school's X (formerly 'Twitter') account which contains dozens of photos and videos.



Showtime!

The Year 6 production
'Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies!' -
was a rip-roaring success!

On Tuesday evening, the children performed in front of 200 people, both adults and children: it was no easy feat, but the children pulled it off with aplomb! We are ever so proud of them.

ACHIEVEMENTS



After winning our group of 5, we finished an incredible 3rd place at today's national finals. Hundreds of teams have competed through the different stages of the competition, so third in the country is a brilliant achievement. We took the eventual winners (Brighton) to extra time.



Our sporting success continues! We are the boys (4th consecutive year) and girls (3rd consecutive year) champions of Croydon at athletics.

We also won the girls' relay.

We had 9 overall winners which is incredible. Thank you to everyone who came to support.



After going unbeaten in 6 games against all the other Croydon league winners, we've been crowned champions of Croydon at girls' football. We only conceded 1 goal in 6 games. 🏆

OUR SCHOOL TROPHIES DATE BACK AS FAR AS 1908!



wow!



'PL Primary Stars tournament helps us believe anything is possible'

Hear from players, teachers and referees about what taking part in this year's Premier League Primary Stars football tournament means to them

To read more double click on the photo.

Premier League -

Fantasy -

Football & Community -

About -

More -

More Than a Game

Sign in



Crystal Palace

Trey, The Minster Junior School



'LET YOUR FEET COMPETE'

'WE WON GOLD!'



MATHS

There has been good news for Maths in our school this month. Approximately 57% of the Year 4 children (this means 1 out of every 2 children) scored 100% on their Multiplication Test Check and a large number of children in Year 6 (67%) achieved or exceeded the expected standard for Key Stage 2 Mathematics.

Well done, children! All your hard work has paid off. However, we, as a school, will continue to aim higher as we go along our learning journey.

MATHS STRATEGY OF THE MONTH

We can represent one whole (1) as any fraction by making the numerator and the denominator the same, for example, $1 = 2/2$ or $16/16$ or $43/43$ or any number/same number.

This is very helpful in adding or subtracting a fraction to or from 1.

$$\text{For example: } 1 + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{4}{4} + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{7}{4} \text{ and}$$
$$1 - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{4}{4} - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$$

MATHS WEBSITE OF THE MONTH


This website has some useful reading and some free resources. Please check it out:

<https://thirdspacelearning.com/blog/top-10-free-maths-homework-help-sites-apps/>

PUZZLE TIME

Which number replaces the '?' mark?

6	4	2
1	2	3
7	4	6
4	8	?



READING

Reading at The Minster Junior School

As another year draws to a close, I hope that you have enjoyed hearing all about what's been going on in Reading at the Minster Juniors this year. It's been great to see everyone getting so involved in activities like the Scholastic Book Fair and World Book Day and I really hope that you'll all be just as enthusiastic next year too. In the final weeks of school, let's get stuck into some good books that we can recommend to others!



Summer Events



The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to keep reading during the summer holidays, ensuring they are ready for a great start to the new term in the autumn. Children set a reading goal and collect rewards for reading anything they enjoy. Children can sign up at their [local library](#) or [online](#), and it's **FREE** to take part.

The Challenge starts on Saturday 6 July in England.

[Summer Reading Challenge - The Reading Agency](#)

Book of the Month:



Recommended for 8-12 year olds.



Herbert Lemon, Lost-and-Founder at the Grand Nautilus Hotel, knows that returning lost things to their rightful owners is not easy - especially when the lost thing is not a thing at all, but a girl. No one knows what happened to Violet Parma's parents twelve years ago, and when she engages Herbie to help her find them, the pair discover that their disappearance might have something to do with the legendary sea-monster, the Malamander. Eerie-on-Sea has always been a mysteriously chilling place, where strange stories seem to wash up. And it just got stranger...

A message from the Head

Dear Parents, Carers, and Friends of The Minster Junior School,

As we close the chapter on another remarkable academic year, we reflect on our achievements, bid farewell to cherished members of our community, and look forward to new beginnings.

Throughout this year, our school community has truly embodied our vision, "Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and do good." As a flourishing Church of England school, we've nurtured not only academic excellence but also the spiritual, moral, and cultural growth of our diverse pupil body. We are immensely proud of how our children have embraced challenges, celebrated successes, and supported one another.

To our wonderful Year 6 pupils: as you prepare to embark on your secondary school journey, we wish you every success. You've shown tremendous growth, resilience, and character during your time with us. Remember, once a Minster pupil, always a Minster pupil!

A message from the Head

It is with mixed emotions that we say goodbye to some beloved staff members:

1. Mrs Driscoll: Your dedication to nurturing young minds has been inspirational.
2. Mrs Kovacs-Pereira: Your enthusiasm and creativity have brought joy to countless pupils during sporting events.
3. Mrs Newman: Your support and kindness have touched the lives of many pupils.
4. Fr Alan: Your spiritual guidance and wisdom have been a cornerstone of our school community.

We thank you all for the positive difference you've made to both staff and pupils. You will be greatly missed, and we wish you the very best in your future endeavours.

Our pupils have embraced fresh resources to improve outcomes, with particular improvements in reading and writing. The school choir's performance at the Croydon Music Festival was a resounding success. Our sports teams have demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and skill, with notable victories in football, netball and winning the Croydon dance competition- Let Your Feet Compete. This is matched by our numerous, artistic achievements including winning "Don't judge a book by its cover and Show Racism the Red Card."

The abundance of school enrichment activities, including trips, has made this another brilliant year. This provision is an integral cog in our curriculum.

A message from the Head

We have truly lived out our school's vision through various community engagement activities: The Baby Bank collection drive exceeded all expectations, demonstrating our pupils' compassion, the two Fayres where parents had stalls promoting their talents, the emergency services, visits from local faith leaders and our collaboration with P4YE.

As we break for the summer holidays, we encourage all our pupils and families to continue living out our school's vision. Embrace opportunities for kindness, learning, and growth wherever you find them. To our returning pupils, we look forward to welcoming you back in September for another exciting year of learning and discovery.

Enjoy Your Holiday! Whether you're travelling or staying local, we hope you have a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable summer break. Remember to keep reading, stay curious, and return to us refreshed and ready for new adventures!

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 9:1