



Minet Junior School Newsletter

Spring Term: 2nd February 2024
01895 462362

<https://www.minetjunior.org.uk/>
office@minetjunior.org.uk

Upcoming Dates

Monday 5th February– 5O'C class assembly 9am

Monday 5th February– 5E and 5O'C pedestrian training

Tuesday 6th February– 3S class assembly 9am

Thursday 8th February- 5M and 5A pedestrian training

Monday 12th-Friday 16th February– SCHOOL CLOSED for Half Term

Thursday 22nd February– Y4 Climate Change Workshop

Friday 23rd February– Y5 S.America Carnival Day

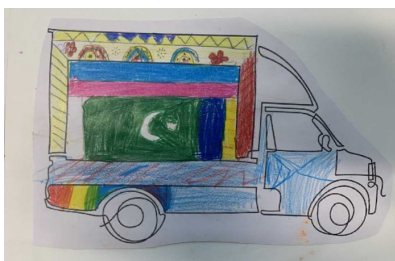


'Is an e-reader better than a book?'

Please discuss this question with your child. They can then share their family's ideas with the class. There are no right or wrong answers.

A study from the University of Valencia, in Spain, found that print reading could boost skills by six to eight times more than digital reading, for example, on an e-reader or tablet. The study, published in the Review of Educational Research, also found that while there is a negative relationship between digital reading and comprehension for primary school pupils, the relationship turns positive for secondary school-aged pupils.

Year 3 have had a fantastic week celebrating Cultural Week. Our focus was Pakistan, Afghanistan and the United Arab Emirates. The children have completed a range of different activities across their subjects. In art, the children were looking at the intricate designs of the Pakistani trucks. After they were creating Pakistani truck designs using tradition Pakistani art patterns. In geography, the children took a trip to Pakistan and learnt about some of the famous landmarks, they then wrote postcards home to family members telling them about all the wonderful things they had seen. In guided reading the children read a book called the "The Arabic Quilt" the book is about being proud of your culture and celebrating differences, the children all learnt to write in Arabic and created a quilt of their own.



During Cultural Week, Year 4 had a wonderful experience exploring Africa! Thank you to the parents who joined us in sharing insights about Somalia and a traditional dance and captivating drum performance. Year 4 also had the opportunity to learn about African clothing, homes and animals through the creation of beautiful artwork. It was a week filled with both educational and enjoyable activities, contributing to a well-rounded cultural learning experience for our pupils.



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Year 5 pupils had a wonderful time learning about India during Culture Week.

Firstly, we did some map work using atlases to locate India, its cities and places of interest. We learnt a variety of facts and some of the children used this information to make fact files and continued their research at home. We looked closely at Indian art work and made some colourful Rangoli patterns and some pupils even sketched the Taj Mahal. The highlight of the week was our visitor Mr Singh, who taught the children how to perform Bhangra dance. Every one thoroughly enjoyed the workshop.



During culture week, year 6 learnt about the Commonwealth. Having had a few topic lessons on the Commonwealth, the children were able to read a story by a Jamaican-British writer in their guided reading lessons. The story deals with themes of racism and the challenges immigrants face from moving throughout the commonwealth countries.

As a finale, all children were able to participate in the Carnival dance workshop. Led by an actual dancer from the Notting Hill Carnival, the children were able celebrate the heritage and culture of the Carnival!



Minet Junior School and Minet Infant School are working together with Hillingdon Council to try and make the roads around the schools safer. Following several campaigns and initiatives the school have run to improve road safety and encourage more active travel in the school community, the council have agreed to allow the children at both schools to help design new 20mph signage on Avondale Drive.

Take part in our Design a Sign Competition!

Children should use the template (available from their class teacher) to enter their design in the competition and then return their completed design to their class teacher.

Designs should be drawn (no computers or images)

- Designs must be bright and to the point
- The theme is 20mph, so we are wanting drivers to slow down
- Please assist and support your children with their designs where you can, however, please refrain from drawing the designs yourself.

Here is a sign design example from another Hillingdon School who asked their children to design similar 20mph signs outside their school.

We hope to see as many of the children get involved as possible. Please hand in designs to your class teacher no later than **Wednesday 21st February**.

The winning designs will be chosen by the council and made into formal 20mph signs for all to see! Winners will be notified in due course.

If you have any questions regarding the competition, then please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Taylor.



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Following our NSPCC assembly last week, the NSPCC came to school to deliver a workshop to the children in year 5 & 6. The children were taught the 5 types of abuse and how to contact the charity for help if needed and the phone number: 080011111.



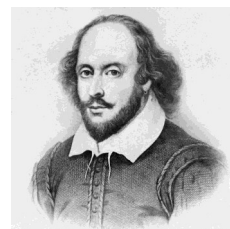
A group of year 6 students have participated in the Bikeability course. The course is designed to give children the skills and confidence to ride on roads safely. One child said, "I've really enjoyed this course, I've learned so much."

House Points

Winners are:

25/01/24– **Shakespeare**
with 1990 housepoints

01/02/24– **Shakespeare**
with 1490 housepoints



Well Done!

Our FAB FOUR for January:

1. 4T 99.58%

2. 6E 98.77%

3. 6P 97.69%

4. 5O'C 97.19%



Great attendance!



Introduced in 2011, the pupil premium is a sum of money given to schools each year by the Government to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children. This is based on research showing that children from low income families perform less well at school than their peers. Often, children who are entitled to pupil premium face challenges such as poor language and communication skills, lack of confidence and issues with attendance and punctuality. The pupil premium is intended to directly benefit the children who are eligible, helping to narrow the gap between them and their classmates.

How do I know if my child is eligible for Pupil Premium funding?

You are eligible for Pupil Premium funding if you are receiving the following benefits:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA(IB)) - **Not JSA (Contributed based)**
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA(IR)) **support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit **and have an annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) that does not exceed £16,190.**
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.
- Universal Credit (with a NET of £7400 or less)



Children who are or have been in care, and children who have a parent who is or was in the armed forces, are also entitled to pupil premium.

In addition, pupils who have qualified for free school meals on the above grounds in the past, but are no longer eligible, continue to receive pupil premium for the next six years.

Are you entitled?

Pupil Premium contact at Minet Junior School

Mrs Dobson and Mrs Costello are here to help support you and your family with any questions or queries about Pupil Premium or Free School Meals. Please feel free to contact them on 01895 462 362



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