



THE WORKS



WISDOM • OPTIMISM • RESILIENCE • KINDNESS • SERVICE



**Mr Parris,
CEO
Minster Trust
for
Education**

Welcome back to all students, staff and families. I hope you had the opportunity

to enjoy the half term fortnight and that you have started the new term refreshed. The break was important to help us all with our resilience as we face another national lockdown and the restrictions to daily life this brings. However, as you are aware schools remain open and we are working hard to provide the best possible education within the restrictions to which we are required to adhere.

This is also a time of change for The Minster School. I have now moved into my new role as CEO of the Minster Trust for Education, working with the 7 schools in the Trust to make sure the quality of education is as good as it possibly can be. Collaboration is at the core of the Trust which is formed with The Minster School and its family of schools at the heart. The school's new Head is Ben Chaloner and it has been my privilege to work with him as Head of School for the last 2 years – I have no doubt he will continue to make sure Minster continues to flourish, supporting students to great outcomes and an enriching education.

I look forward to working very closely with Ben and the whole Minster team for many years to come and will miss my role as Head – it is a truly unique school made special by its community of learners and teachers. With all best wishes to families, students and staff for a successful and healthy half term.

NEWS

REMEMBRANCE DAY



On Wednesday 11th November 2020 we marked Armistice Day in school. At 11am our KS3 students were in class and they participated in a virtual act of remembrance that we had pre-recorded. If you would like to see this, follow this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJKMuxixpgA>

Our KS4 and 5 students were on their break at 11am and they participated in a live act of remembrance, with a bugler playing the Last Post and an Act of Commemoration led by our school chaplain, Rev'd Cathy Porter. Thanks to Tom who played the Last Post for us in what was a moving and reflective Act of Remembrance.



REMEMBRANCE & PEACE



Ever Living God,
We remember those whom
you have gathered
from the storm of war
into the peace of your presence;
may that same peace calm our fears
bring justice to all peoples
and establish harmony among the nations
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

PRIZE GIVING 2020

We awarded prizes to deserving students in October. The wide-ranging awards recognise the efforts and academic achievements of students with many awards being historic bequests and some linked to the Old Southwellian Society, who continue to support these prizes.

Unfortunately the impact of COVID-19 this year meant it wasn't possible to hold our annual event, celebrating with students, families, staff and community supporters. We were, however, very grateful to Nina Hossain (ITV news) and Bishop Paul Williams for contributing video addresses along with Mr Parris and Mr Chaloner. These reflected on the incredible resilience shown by Minster School students in challenging times, reminding students to be optimistic for an exciting future.



<https://youtu.be/HcnJgPtTLY>

RESILIENCE

In one of our thought for the week reflections we set a house competition asking for music, poetry art or photography pieces that express what resilience has looked like this year for us.

We have had some inspiring and thought-provoking entries from all houses reflecting the role of the NHS, the nation turning to baking, our emotional struggles and triumphs in these difficult times expressed through new compositions, poems, art and of course cake.



JUNIOR SCHOOL POPPY COLLAGES

Students in Junior School commemorated Remembrance Day by making poppy collages.

Daniel, Constance, Rory, Anastasia, Ayman, Anna, Elliott, Poppy are pictured here.



POST-16 OPEN EVENING



The Minster school was pleased to offer our first ever online Post 16 evening on Wednesday 4th November. We very much hope that our prospective Sixth Formers in Year 11 at school and around Nottinghamshire, got a great experience and all the advice and support they would usually receive at one of our well-attended Post 16 evenings.

Parents and young people not being able to attend in person didn't stop us from having that all important interactive element, where during the event itself questions could be asked and answered straightaway. With a little bit of technical wizardry and us answering via live video, we were able to take questions from people at home and be visible for all to see. Subject leaders had also prepared video shorts prior to the event so everyone could put some faces to names and listen to summaries of the different curriculum experiences.

We had students too with our Head Team giving the student perspective about the life of a Sixth Former here in a recorded video. We wanted to give that personal touch to the evening and are delighted with how it turned out and the feedback we have. There is plenty of information available and it is all still accessible, including the live video answers for anyone who couldn't be involved on the evening itself.

Please visit the school website:

<https://www.minster.notts.sch.uk/sixthformopenevening>

We ask for Sixth Form applications to be submitted by **Friday November 27th**.

Applications will still be accepted after this date, but not delaying is advised to get the best chance of securing preferred subject combinations.

HOUSE WEEK NEWS

At the end of last half term, we celebrated student's achievements with our first virtual House celebration assemblies of the academic year, as well as thanking all our students for their resilience in settling into the new school routines.



Students were nominated by their tutors for the virtue of kindness and received tokens for a home bake from Aspens our caterers. WORKS points certificates are electronic and were sent directly to students and parents with a number of students receiving their Bronze 1 award.

In our first fundraising event our target was to raise £420 for Emmanuel House to provide all the meals for a week, however due to the kindness of our students we raised £680 which will provide hot meals for a week and a half.

At the end of last half term, Rufford and Clumber are in joint first place, Welbeck in third place followed by Thoresby.



MEMORIES OF PAST TIMES

Working at the Minster School involves being regularly reminded of the very long history of the school. Ken Williams was a pupil at the school when it was the 'Southwell Minster Grammar School' in the 1950s and recently got in touch to kindly offer to send us his 'Company of Service' lapel badge, given to him as his time at the school came to an end.

Ken writes: "From memory it was awarded to me around 1958 but unfortunately I have lost the Citation Card which went with it. It wasn't for any special achievement, such as sparkling success at rugby or cricket, but I remember it was something to do with service to the school..."

It is a sobering thought that it is 67 years ago this month that I arrived at Southwell as a Boarder, living at Sacrista Prebend. Since then I have lived in 8 different places, flown the equivalent of 12 times round the world, visited 36 countries of which 22 were for work...

I now live in the wilds of West Sussex but it all seems to have happened in the blink of an eye!"

When the pandemic is over Ken is very much looking forward to visiting the school to compare notes with memories of his own time at the school many years ago.

LEARNING GALLERY

LEST WE FORGET



A truly remarkable piece of remembrance art work by Anna.

YEAR 7 OLYMPIC THEMED DANCE



It looks as though we may have a budding Olympic gymnast in the making.

YEAR 9 CROSS COUNTRY

Well done to all our Year 9 boys and girls

Year 9 Cross Country Results

9CR Boys	9CR Girls	9TW Boys	9TW Girls
1 st Place – Harry	1 st Place – Martha	1 st Place – Oilly	1 st Place – Alice
2 nd Place – Jenson	2 nd Place – Eve	2 nd Place – Adam	2 nd Place – Talitha
3 rd Place – Ben	3 rd Place – Emelia	3 rd Place – Angus	3 rd Place – Zoe



YEAR 12 PHOTOGRAPHY



Anjali's fantastic, very spooky shots taken for a recent project based on surrealism.

SPORTS LEADERS



A great opportunity for our sports leaders, learning how to lead a brand new Golf activity.

AUTUMN MINSTER BAKE OFF



One of an impressive range of fantastic entries for the Autumn Minster Bake Off!

KEY DATES:

Monday 16th November:
Anti-Bullying Week

Friday 20th November:
Year 3-9 Languages
Deadline for Christmas Card
Competition Entries

Friday 27th November:
Submission Deadline for 6th
Form Applications

KEY EVENTS and UPDATES

Languages Christmas Card Competition Y3-9



- Learn about Christmas traditions in different countries by taking part in our Christmas Card Design competition!
- This is a national competition open to schools in all regions in England. Let's be proud to represent The Minster School. This is also a house competition within school, the house with the most entries will win the most WORKS points.
- We would like you to design a card which shows the **Christmas traditions of another country**. You should research and design your card using, if you wish, a variety of materials.
- Entries can be submitted in any foreign language - **N.B. entries containing English language will not be accepted.**
- Each card should be no larger than a sheet of A4 paper and must be completed by hand, but any form of materials can be used - felt tips, paint, fabric etc. Judges will be looking for originality of illustration as well as accuracy of language and content.
- The competition is open to pupils in Reception to Year 9 and the winning entries from Primary and Secondary will be used as our Christmas E-cards for 2020. The two winners will also each receive a £20 Amazon voucher!
- The winning entries may also be used on the social media and in publicity materials in future for Routes into Languages. We will only ever use the year group and school name of the winners in any publicity, not the name of the student.
- Each entry **MUST** be clearly marked on the back with your first name, year group, teacher and school, as well as any necessary information about the language(s) chosen (i.e. if it is a less widely learned language) to facilitate judging.
- The deadline for submission of entries will be **Friday 20th November** - please hand your entries to your languages teacher, tutor or to Miss Walter.

Parentkind

THE BIG PTA RAFFLE 2020

Bring a little sparkle and festive cheer this year!

WIN UP TO £5,000

£3 ticket enters you in all 12 draws

★ Half the ticket price goes to our school
★ 12 chances to win up to £5,000
★ Tickets are limited - act now!
★ <https://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk/support/the-minster-school-ng25>

12 chances to win

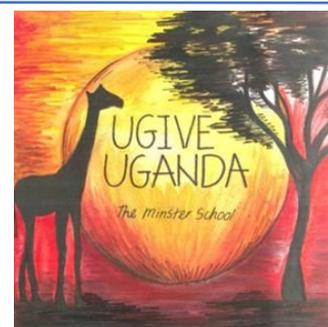
Help raise funds

To buy tickets, visit: [bigptaraffle.co.uk](https://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk)
and search for: The Minster School

Don't delay - tickets are limited

It is illegal for anyone under 16 years of age to purchase or sell raffle tickets. Anyone under 16 years of age who buys a ticket for the Big PTA Raffle 2020 will immediately forfeit the right to any prize. Closing date 7th Dec 2020. A raffle is a form of gambling. If you, or someone you know, needs information and/or help with a problem gambling, please call GamCare on 0845 6000 133 or visit www.gamcare.org.uk

CHRISTMAS QUIZ FOR UGIVE UGANDA



In a particularly difficult year of changes, restrictions and isolation, the school charity group Ugive Uganda is determined not to let go of the longstanding tradition of our Christmas Quiz.

We are at this time thinking of our partner school in Nyakagyeme and how they are coping with the Covid-19 pandemic: schools in Uganda have been closed since March, disrupting the education of 15 million children.

We want to support them in any way that we can, so we will be holding a Christmas Quiz on **Thursday 10th December at 7pm** to fundraise. The quiz will, of course, be held in the safest manner possible, likely on Zoom or Teams.

Tickets are **£3 per person or £10 for a larger team**. If you would like to join us please contact Mr Wall (a.wall@minster.notts.sch.uk) or a member of the group.

We hope you can take part to support our work for Uganda – the quiz is always a lot of fun!



Choose us as your Co-op local cause



A big thank you to everyone who selected the Minster School for their Co-op charity over the last year. You helped us raise £7,500 funding for our IT department. We're delighted that the Minster Junior School and music department has been selected for the next round of Co-op funding. In order to benefit, we need you to select us here: <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/42636>



Feel like having a stab at winning £5000 in time for Christmas? Buy one of these raffle tickets and our school gets 50% of the ticket value while giving you 12 chances to win. It's worth a shot. Buy a dream here: <https://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk/support/the-minster-school-ng25>

Great news, we're now a registered charity with Amazon. Any time someone picks us and then makes an Amazon purchase, our school will benefit by 0.5% of that purchase value. Please link our PTA charity to your Amazon account. When Amazon shopping at a laptop/PC or browser, then please go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/516332-0> This enables you to select our school. Thereafter, you'll need to shop through <https://smile.amazon.co.uk>

The MSPTA of the Minster School raises funds to support the students across a range of enrichment activities. Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be raising a free donation for MSPTA? There are nearly 3,000 retailers including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, the trainline and Sainsbury's, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to MSPTA to say thank you for shopping with them. <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/msptasouthwell/>



CHRISTMAS SONG/CAROL COMPETITION

House Music Competition

This year we are holding our first House Music competition...to write a Christmas song. Students in all years may enter the competition and the winning house will be based on the highest number of entries.

The overall winning song will be recorded and made available as a download to raise money for a charity supporting children with cancer. A music video will also be made to accompany the winning song.

- Open to all students
- The song can be any musical style
- Lyrics must be suitable for a Christmas song
- Entries can be recorded performances (e.g. recorded on a phone) or written music (e.g. melody & chords)
- The winning house is the one with the highest number of entries
- The winning song will be recorded as a charitable download

Deadline for entries – 2nd December 2020

For more details please see your school email or Show My Homework

Write an original Christmas Song

The Christmas Song/Carol competition is open to all Minster School students. We would like to encourage all years to compose an original song with lyrics, melody & chords. One of the songs will be chosen and we will work with the composer to create a school recording which will be made available for download in order to raise money for children with cancer. **The entry deadline is 2nd December.**

Contact us:

Email : office@minster.notts.sch.uk | Twitter : [@minster_school](https://twitter.com/minster_school) | Tel : 01636 814000 | www.minster.notts.sch.uk
MSPTA Facebook: [@MSPTASouthwell](https://www.facebook.com/MSPTASouthwell)