

18 June 2020

Dear all

I hope you are keeping safe and well in these uncertain times. I write today as we are excited to announce details of our very first Minerva FUNdraiser and to inform you as to how you can help make a difference to the lives of those in our communities.

As a Trust, we wanted to find a way of working together as one community, with the aim of raising funds to support students' families facing hardship as a result of COVID-19. The last few months have undoubtedly been incredibly challenging for all of us, but by bringing our vision of 'working together' to life for the good of our families, we know we can make a difference. From this commitment and passion to make positive change (and to have a little fun and friendly competition between colleagues on the way), the idea of the Minerva FUNdraiser was born.

In under three weeks, The Minerva FUNdraiser has already raised over £1000, something of which we are incredibly proud. We are keen to build on this now and make even more of a difference. The money raised, which will be split equally amongst our five schools, will be used to support families struggling to access to food, uniform and other school equipment.

In April, each school spent some time developing an idea for a brilliant fundraiser. From there, we got together as a team to coordinate a programme of activities, and since May, we have been busy getting involved. There really is something for everyone, from The Handsworth Bake Off, Stocksbridge's Bingo night to the famous High Storrs Hike.

We would love your help to raise even more and you can do this in one of two ways. Firstly, we invite you all to take part in the Chapeltown Academy running/walking/hiking challenge, week commencing 29 June and the High Storrs Hike on 2-9 July. To find out more, simply follow us on Twitter @MinervaTrust. Alternatively, you can simply donate to the fund by clicking on the following link: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/MinervaFUNdraiser>

We are truly grateful to everyone who has contributed so far. Let's not finish just yet, let's keep going and let's help make even more of a difference.

Huge thanks for your support and stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Bev Matthews
CEO, Minerva Learning Trust