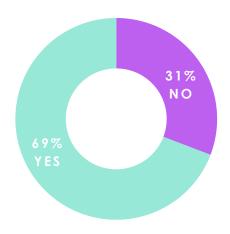
VOTESFORSCHOOLS NEWS



63,432 VOTERS HAVE THEIR SAY

Do we understand the difference between appropriation and appreciation? The majority of young people say yes.

Visit <u>www.votesforschools.com</u> for the full story.

UP FOR DISCUSSION: PERIOD AWARENESS

This week, VotesforSchools voters will be debating: "Are we getting better at talking about periods?"

Why not discuss what you think about this question at home? How easy do you find talking about periods?

THIS WEEK'S BIG READ: THE TAMPON TAX

In 2021, when former Prime Minister Rishi Sunak was the Chancellor, the cost of certain period products was reduced. Known as the "tampon tax", this extra cost - which was around 5-7p per pack of tampons or pads - was because of something called value-added tax (VAT).

However, period pants were not included in this change in 2021. So, costs for these stayed very high - VAT was as much as 20%! It wasn't until January 2024 that they became VAT-free, thanks to a campaign led by Marks & Spencer. It is now helping customers save around £2 per pair.



COMPREHENSION CHALLENGE

- What was Rishi Sunak's job in 2021?
- Find a synonym in the text for the word "lowered".
- Which period products were not included in the tampon tax change in 2021?
- When did period pants become VAT-free?
- Which shop led the campaign around period pants?

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AND THEN THERE WERE TWO...

After four rounds of voting, there are just two politicians left in the race to become the new leader of the Conservative Party: Kemi Badenoch and Robert Jenrick. The final ballot closes on 31st October, and the result will be announced on 2nd November.



HURRICANE MILTON HITS FLORIDA

Just two weeks after Hurricane Helene caused significant damage to the south-east USA, Hurricane Milton struck Florida. It was a category 5 storm, which is the highest danger rating. Thousands of people had to leave their homes for safety.



BACK OF THE NET!

England's amputee women's football team have spoken of their shock after successfully fundraising £50,000. They will use the money to play at the first-ever World Amputee Football Federation Women's World Cup in Colombia in November.



HEY, BARBIE

Mattel has revealed their latest doll ahead of the Hindu Festival of Lights. Her name? Diwali Barbie! She will be wearing traditional Indian clothing such as a choli (cropped top), koti (floral vest), and a lehenga (skirt), thanks to co-designer Anita Dongre.

