



## 63,432 VOTERS HAVE THEIR SAY

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

Visit [www.votesforschools.com](http://www.votesforschools.com) 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?

## 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.

