

Dear Parents and Friends,



We were very pleased to receive a surprise 'bundle' of P.E. and sports equipment from Sainsburys, modelled here by Class 3, no doubt to thank us for previous custom and encourage us to take part in ActiveKids again this year. The collection box will be placed in the lobby and all vouchers will be appreciated. Why not consider arranging a collection point at work?

### Instrument Tuition

We anticipate a timeslot becoming available for woodwind lessons (recorders, flute, saxophone or clarinet) after Easter. Why not join with a friend and share the cost?

**Clubs** In addition to the cancelled clubs on Monday and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> February, we are also cancelling Polli:Nation and Board Games on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February. Sorry for the inconvenience.

### Teaching Assistant

I am pleased to report that we have been successful in our efforts to recruit an additional teaching assistant for the school. Simone Shephard (no relation to our 'own' Shepherds) will begin after the half-term, supporting learning in Class 3.



**The Blue Donut (Doughnut?)** This is the nickname apparently given to our large, new staffroom table. The staffroom is frequently used as 'breakout space' during lesson time, and the table has been adapted to suit children on higher chairs as well as the knees of adults!

### Reading Books

We seem to be missing a substantial number of fiction books, particularly from classes 3 and 4. Please have a hunt around at home and return what you can – no questions asked, we'll just be grateful to have our books back!

### Weather

It is still very cold on our playground, and we notice children are still coming to school in thin coats. Please think carefully about including (named!) hats and gloves.

### P.E. Kit

As well as shorts and T-shirts, children require warm tracksuits and trainers for 'outdoor' PE. Unlike school uniform, we don't specify any particular 'look' for tracksuits etc, but they must be warm, particularly since the wind around our school is very cold at this time of year.

### Polli:Nation Project

Plans are now well advanced for our 'Polli:Nation Corner' and we are very keen to hear from anyone who might be able to provide low-level boards (similar to 'scaffolding planks') which can become a back wall to the raised bed. Around 12m are needed in total. Anyone who wishes to make a donation of time and/or money is invited to speak to Miss Allen, who together with her Y1 & 2 club, are leading this development. We will be seeking out plants and shrubs which encourage pollinating insects, as well as dressing the area with netting and other features to create a really pleasant space.



Our website recently topped 50,000 visitors!

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**PARENT'S EVENINGS - Please return your request slips by Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February.**

Those attending Monday evening will also (subject to availability) be able to sample food cooked in the new kitchens.

**Here is a lovely story opening from Isabella in Class 2.**

Class 2 have been working on their expanded noun phrases (children need to know what this means!) and it is exciting to see how they are developing as young writers.

The exercise books we invested in this school year are really making a positive difference to the quality of handwriting across the school.

**Missing money**

In recent days we have had a number of envelopes arrive at the office with money missing (the envelope had come unstuck.) Please ensure the envelopes are sealed all around, and it would be really helpful if you could, in addition to the child's name and the purpose of the money, write on the amount you think you have enclosed. Thank you.

**Data Collection**

This 'return' is an annual requirement and helps to keep your children safe by ensuring that all details are correct. Please complete yours by reading the letter of explanation first. It will help to reduce unnecessary amendments. Please return it by 31<sup>st</sup> January.

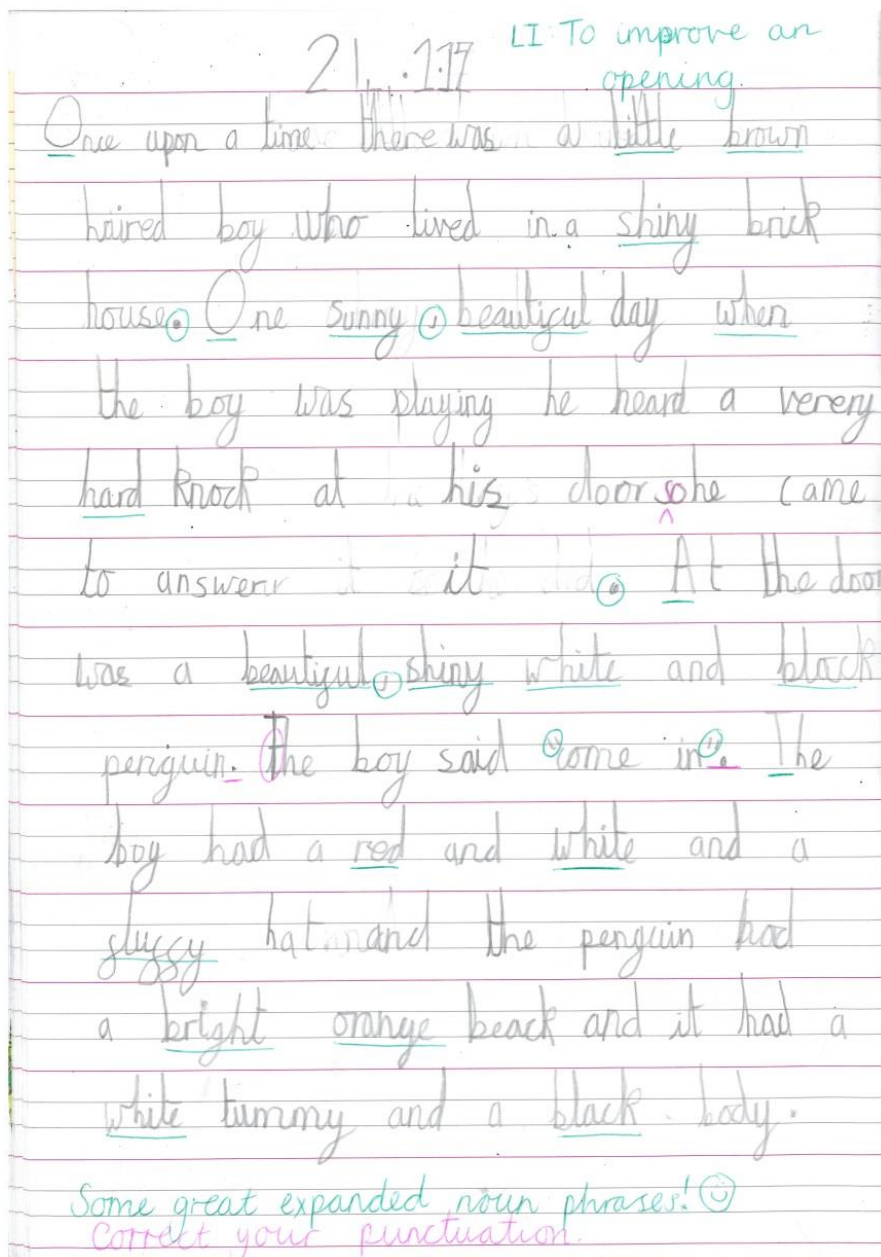
**Year 1 and 2 Swimming**

Many thanks to all those who are supporting the children by going on the swimming rota. We could not manage without you!

**Maths Games**

The school's bank of maths games are ideal for building confidence in number, calculation and shape, and suitable for any age or ability within the school. The games can be played informally at home and unlike previous years, are underused. Please contact the school, or Mrs Marwood, if you feel this resource could help your child.

**Diary Dates** Our online diary can be found at [http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/?page\\_id=267](http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/?page_id=267)



Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	FINAL cross-country race at KLB, 9:30 for 10:00. Races for parents too!		
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming starts, FOR ALL YEAR 1s and 2s. Governors – Teaching and Learning Committee meeting, evening.		
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> FEB	And Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> – Parents Evenings. NO CLUBS ON THESE NIGHTS.		
Weds 8th	No Polli:Nation or Board Games club.		
Thursday 9th	Class 4 trip to Bletchley Park. RETURNING AROUND 5:00 p.m.		
Friday 10th	CLASS 3 'SHOWCASE' assembly. Final day of Term 3.	FONNS DISCO Classes 1 & 2, 5:30 to 6:15 pm, Classes 3 & 4 6:30 – 7:30 pm Tickets £2 on the door and includes a drink and snack.	
Monday 20th	First day of TERM 4 – THIS IS A PUPIL DAY. Swimming for Years 1 & 2 continues.		
THIS SPRING – Pupil days	NEXT SUMMER – Pupil days	AUTUMN 2017 – Pupil days	SPRING 2018 – Pupil days
Term 3 03/01/2017 – 10/02/2017	Term 5 24/04/17 - 26/05/17	Term 1 05/09/2017 – 20/10/2017	Term 3 04/01/2018 – 9/02/2018
Term 4 20/02/2017 – 07/04/2017	Term 6 05/06/17 - 19/07/17	Term 2 31/10/2017 – 15/12/2017	Term 4 19/02/2018 – 29/03/2018