

Dear Parents and Friends,



## Finished!

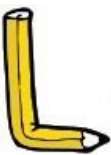


The playground landscaping company, "Different By Design" have completed their work in the playground, and very exciting it looks too, with children speculating what they might want a go on first. Sadly we have to wait a little while longer for the grass to take.



## Additional activities

As we hurtle towards the summer term, the number of additional activities increases (see the diary below). Please support the school's administration of these activities by returning slips quickly (especially if we've not been able to get information out as quickly as we would like!) **Year 5 & 6 Rugby** Because of the wonderful support of a large number of drivers we were able to take a 'squad' of 24 players to the Year 5 & 6 Rugby festival at Stinchcombe. Despite the cold weather the children played 5 matches each and very much enjoyed the occasion. One of my favourite matches was between two of our own 8-a-side teams. We drew!



## Learning at home

We are pleased to send home the latest of our small booklets on supporting learning. Our Spring 'Maths at home' booklet is full of little tasks which might help in the development of young mathematicians.



**Three of our core Christian values are compassion, generosity and hope.** With this in mind it is an absolute hoot to support **Red Nose Day 2017** and raise money for good causes. Please wear as much 'red' as you can on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March, and come prepared to make a generous donation 'on the door' for a day of silliness with a serious message...

## Lanyards

You might have noticed some smart new lanyards in the school lobby. Children have been taught that the green ones (for staff and volunteers) indicate that the wearer has been DBS (safeguarding) cleared BY US AT NORTH NIBLEY SCHOOL. Red lanyards are worn by visitors who have not been cleared by the school. This is an at-a-glance 'code' which helps children to know who they can trust. Please collect the correct lanyard from the office when you sign in.



## REMINDER

Please call into the office EACH DAY your child is off ill (notes and emails will also suffice, but messages from brothers and sisters are less reliable!) We will chase you if we haven't heard!

**Wildlife Quiz** Our new team came comfortably through the first round, an 'away' match against Stone-with-Woodford Primary. Well done all. On to round 2! Thank you to Mrs Bailey and Mrs Meyer for taking this on again.



### General Knowledge Quiz

This one-off annual event was not quite as successful, but the team were very happy not to come last. It seems they enjoyed the opportunity and made the following comments; "I got all the maths questions right, bar one." "I knew all the prime numbers up to 20, and could add them correctly." "The funniest question was to identify two sports from their equipment, and the names of the sports had to rhyme. The correct answer was hurling and curling, but we said 'hockey and sockey'!" "It was very enjoyable, even though some of the questions were very hard. I was pleased with how well I did". The children were each awarded a cream egg.

**Policies** The revised (draft) policy for Early Years Foundation Stage has been added to the school website. Governors will meet to consider comments on 27<sup>th</sup> March. Please let us have any comments for consideration by then. Thank you.

**Last call for Instrument Tuition** We have a timeslot available for woodwind lessons (recorders, flute, saxophone or clarinet) after Easter, ideally for Y1/Y2 beginner recorder group. Might you want to start a woodwind instrument? Why not join with a friend or two and share the cost? Please see myself or Mrs Bargewell asap, before Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March, when alternative plans will have to be made.

**Investing in staff training** We have a number of 'statutory' training sessions to attend over the coming weeks, including child protection. I am sure you will be pleased to know that Mrs S Shephard (with an 'A') and Miss Allen have both passed their Paediatric First Aid course. We also have been very pleased to have teaching assistants accompany 'their' teachers in our recent round of training in the Talk4Writing programme.

**The Bloodhound** It is with great excitement that I can now confirm that Class 4 have been invited, along with other local schools, to visit our local global engineering giants, Renishaw, at their New Mills site to see the world famous Bloodhound Car on Friday 7th April 2017. Bloodhound is a UK-led, global project to build a supersonic car that will not only beat the current land speed world record but also smash the 1,000mph barrier. If you would like to find out more about this project, please go to [www.bloodhoundssc.com](http://www.bloodhoundssc.com)

**Staffroom Paint** Can any of our wonderful volunteers remember what colours were used to paint the staffroom? Perhaps there was some paint left over? We are now ready to paint the built in cupboard, and the bright pink walls are still in need of a final coat. Thank you.

**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)

|                                |  |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Monday 27th                    | Monday Lunch (Year 6) AND Teaching and Learning Committee (Governors) 6:30 p.m.  |                                |                                |
| Weds 29th                      | Year 5 Tag Rugby DAY. NO SPORTS CLUB.  |                                |                                |
| Thursday 30th                  | 1:00 - 3:30 Year 3 & 4 Rugby (Year 5 & 6 Rugby with Gloucester Rugby Club as usual)  |                                |                                |
| Friday 31st                    | Final Friday for 'outside school' certificates etc.  |                                |                                |
| Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> April      | Last Swim for Years 1 & 2. Finance & Premises Committee (Governors) 7:30 (t.b.c.)  |                                |                                |
| Tuesday 4th                    | Country Dance Festival, Stroud – details to follow.  |                                |                                |
| Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>      | Hockey - County Finals 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.<br>Experience Easter – in partnership with St. Martin's Church.<br>Badminton tasters here at school 3:30 – 5 p.m. – Letter to follow. NO SPORTS CLUB. |                                |                                |
| Thursday 6th                   | Archery tasters, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Letter to follow.   |                                |                                |
| Friday 7th                     | Class 4 trip to see 'The Bloodhound'! Last Day Of Term.  |                                |                                |
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>        | First day of TERM 5. Governor's meeting, evening.  |                                |                                |
| Weds 26th                      | Woodwind lessons start back.   |                                |                                |
| Friday 28th                    | Polli:Nation Day – watch this space  |                                |                                |
| SATURDAY 29th                  | Pre-School-organised Family Photo session in the hall.   |                                |                                |
| Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> MAY       | Country Dancing Festival, Stroud Leisure Centre  |                                |                                |
| 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 |