



NEWSLETTER 206

Friday 8th September 2017

LAST NUMBER FACT FOR A WHILE...There are 206 bones in the typical adult human body!

North Nibley Church of England Primary School, The Street, North Nibley, Glos. GL11 6DL
Tel: 01453 542600
www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk
admin@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk
Twitter: @NibleySchool
Head Teacher: Paul Batchelor

Dear Parents and Friends,

WHAT A LOVELY START BACK WE HAVE HAD!

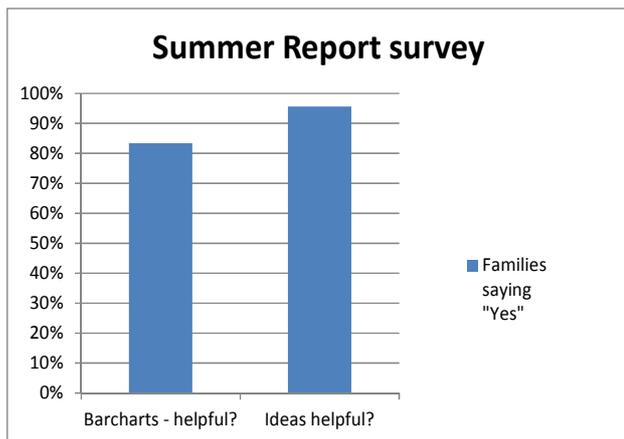
CONGRATULATIONS TO US!

Over the summer it was confirmed that North Nibley School qualified (again) for the GOLD award from School Games organisers, in recognition of the excellent work which goes into P.E. within the time-tabled curriculum and beyond, in terms of after-hours opportunities, at local and county level. This is a real achievement for Mrs Dixon, Mrs Dickson and all our children.



Safeguarding update for volunteers – date needed.

Staff undergo update training every 3 years as part of the requirements of working in a school. I am aware that we have a vast number of volunteers who, although cleared by the DBS screening service, nevertheless receive no information on Child Protection beyond the handouts given at the time they join us as volunteers. I am arranging a date in the near future where you can receive some important updates to help you play your part in keeping children safe.



Survey Parents in last year's Year 1 to Year 6 year groups will be aware that we have been exploring different ways of sharing pupil's attainment in the National Curriculum data, with surveys at the end of the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms. 24 'unique' families (meaning, duplicate answers for siblings were discounted) chose to answer the two questions asked – "Did you find the subject attainment 'bar charts' helpful?" and "Did you find sections 'How to help your child' helpful?" The results are shown on the left and represent the most positive response yet to unpicking this tricky subject. Several parents took the time to confirm that it was the most helpful of the three methods trialled last year. Some also asked for further information about the expected standards (replicating thoughts in the annual survey). Unlike the vast majority of schools I

know, we are trying to quantify what attainment and progress 'looks like', in the context of continuing changes within the national system. I will hold another meeting on this issue **Wednesday 27th September**. Fortunately I can use the materials I prepared for the June meeting on this very subject. I hear that the government is considering ending the approach known as 'secure fit' for writing assessments, which will make a substantial (and positive) difference to our results at the end of Year 2 and Year 6. (There will obviously be a knock on effect felt across all year groups.)

STAFF NEWS

Our congratulations and best wishes go to Miss Parker, who got engaged during the final week of school in July. Welcome to Paula Kirby, who has started work in the office. Please introduce yourselves when you have time.

WHAT A KNIGHT!

DVD copies of our summer production are available to those who pre-ordered them, at a cost of £5 each, profits go to the School Fund.

THANK YOU!

A huge "Thank you" goes to Mrs Meyer for keeping the Polli:Nation garden alive during the summer break. If anyone helped with the pond or the planters at the front of the school, "Thank you" to you too! Thank you to parents who helped to clean the resources used by Class 1. This too is a massive help to the school.

AUTUMN TERM CLUBS

Can those willing to run a club in the Autumn Term please contact me at school a.s.a.p. so that we can get a quick turnaround of the 'club menu'? It would be good to start in the week beginning Monday 18th.

INTERNET SAFETY

We have added a document to the Safety Online page of our website (<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/staying-safe-online/>) entitled "Internet Safety E-book for Parents – For Schools to Share with Parents", and you are invited to download and read this timely piece of advice.

Website

Before the break I wrote about planned changes to just over 100 pages on our website. This work is now complete, with all pages now having a logical page name, for example <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/term-dates/> All the 'internal' links seem to work fine but this was a major undertaking. Please do let me know if something doesn't work as you expect!

Also updated –

School Meals Menu - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/school-meals-menus/>

School Results 2017 <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/sats-results/>

Pupil Premium Grant <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/premium-funding-reports/>

Sports Premium Grant <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/premium-funding-reports/>

Newsletters - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/newletters/>

Menu

The copy on our website is correct. The 'glossy' flyer distributed this week has the wrong jacket potato on Wednesday (it should be with beans) and the wrong soup on Thursday (it will be tomato). Please annotate your copy accordingly.

WINSTON'S WISH

Last school year the children voted to support the charity Winston's Wish in our summer charity project. We had great fun dressing up with a "W" theme – Wally's, windmills, websites, warriors and wizards were watched wandering around. Wonderful! Overall £186 was raised – so well done us! Our next dressing up day is World Book Day (Spring, 2018) and the children will make a choice for a summer project later in the year.

AUTUMN CHARITY There is an opportunity for families to support Meningitis Now with the annual 5 Valley's Walk event on 24th September. Please read my letter and flyer sent separately this week.

WATCH THIS SPACE (CONTINUED)!

Over the summer Class 4's shed was replaced giving the school slightly more storage options. This should be particularly pleasing to one parent who commented on the Parent Survey "Storage for Class 4 PE kits - trainers keep getting mouldy especially in winter, and they smell damp and musty all the time." We do take notice of all your comments. The full survey results can still be found under the Parents and Visitors tab on the main menu, or click here – <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/parent-survey-2017-results/>



SCHOOL UNIFORM UPDATE

The website for ordering our school uniform is now up and running. Parents need to be aware that there are two options for delivery. Either you choose to have it delivered to your home address or you can choose "Collect from the Linela shop". By special arrangement this second option will actually be delivered to school, and Linela will cover the postage costs. In the future we will try to arrange a termly delivery. Our grateful thanks goes to Linela for working so fast to put this service into operation. www.linelashop.co.uk

PARENTPAY ACCOUNTS

Please can I remind all parents who have/use a ParentPay account to ensure that any monies owing on your accounts for lunches etc. are fully paid up. This debt is not allowed to be carried forward into the next academic year and it will be the responsibility of the school to pay this on your behalf should you fail to do this. It is especially important that parents of Year 6 children who will be leaving us this year do this as it will have an impact on your child's secondary school's ability to set up an account for you if this is not done. Many thanks to all who have supported the school in using ParentPay. FROM SEPTEMBER PARENTPAY WILL BE THE DEFAULT WAY TO PAY.

CHRISTIAN VALUE FOR THE AUTUMN TERM - SERVICE

Properly understood, Christian Service is a revolutionary concept. The notion of service calls individuals to lay selfish things aside for the needs of others. It is also an important Value for all social relationships. Words relating to “servant” and “service” are central in Christian theology.

Serving God means serving others. Meaning is found in service rather than in self-centredness. It runs counter to the idea that life is all about competition, or that freedom simply means doing what suits me, or my group, best. It also means that we cannot serve other masters as well (i.e. focus on these as the things of greatest importance) – such as money and possessions. These are some of the questions we will be exploring together:

- How are pupils encouraged to serve one another?
- How are acts of service celebrated in school?
- Are school members active in service in the wider community?
- Which areas of the curriculum enable the children to consider the importance of service?
- Numerous adults serve the school community behind the scenes. Are the children aware of who they are and what they do?
- How do children show their appreciation and gratitude to those who serve them?

Our Christian Value this term is Service. “The best way to not feel hopeless is to get up and do something. Don’t wait for good things to happen to you. If you go out and make some good things happen, you will fill the world with hope, you will fill yourself with hope.” — Barack Obama

SUNFLOWERS Many thanks to all those who have been sharing photos of their sunflowers! They make me smile!

HAVE YOU ANY IDEAS? The ‘Good Ideas’ box makes a welcome return! Find it on the lobby desk, just inside the front door.

<p>NEW FEATURE!</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">NEW</p> <p>Have you also seen...(In the Virtual Bookbag this week)</p> <p>Our Parent Survey tells us a number of you don’t get what we think goes into the bookbags. I am listing here what we’ve sent. If you don’t find it, PLEASE ASK or visit the virtual bookbag for an online copy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meningitis Now – letter and flyer • School Menu – see above • Drama Club flyers • Autumn Club ‘menu’ – make your choices quickly! • GL11 – family flyer • South Cerney Letter and Bikeability Letter – Year 6 only <p>Follow this link http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/virtual-bookbag/</p>
---	--

DIARY DATES

MANY DATES HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE SCHOOL WEBSITE. SEE <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/school-diary/>

Monday 11th	First Swimming Lessons for Years 3 & 4.		
Tuesday 12th	Violins start back.		
Weds 13th	Woodwind lessons re-start. FONNS MEETING – Staffroom, 7:30		
Monday 18th	Reception children stay for lunch. Please collect your child at the end of lunchtime – 1.05pm would be great! Year 6 – Cluster Water Sports Day		
Weds 20th	NO SPORTS CLUB – Staff Defibrillator		
Thursday 21st	First Full Governing Body Meeting		
Friday 22 nd	Head Teacher Drop-in, 9:00 – 10:00. All welcome (especially parents of Reception children)		
Monday 25 th	Full time school begins for Reception children, unless special circumstances apply. We will let you know. Cycle Training for Year 6. Cycling continues on Tuesday and Wednesday. Monday Lunch at the Village Hall too!		
Tuesday 26 th	Meeting for Parents of Year 5 & Year 6 girls.		
Weds 27th	Assessment / Standards / Expectations – Annual Update meeting for parents. Answers the question “What about the most able?” (Raised twice in recent Parent Surveys)		
Tues 3rd &	Weds 4th Parent / Teacher meetings. Children welcome too. WE DISTRIBUTE SIGN-UP SHEETS		
Weds 11 th to	Friday 13 th OCT London Residential NO BLOGGING CLUB		
AUTUMN 2017 – Pupil days	SPRING 2018 – Pupil days	SUMMER 2018 – Pupil days	NEXT AUTUMN – Pupil days
Term 1 05/09/2017 – 20/10/2017	Term 3 04/01/2018 – 9/02/2018	Term 5 16/04/2018 – 25/05/2018	Term 1 decided in Autumn 2017
Term 2 31/10/2017 – 15/12/2017	Term 4 19/02/2018 – 29/03/2018	Term 6 4/06/18 – 24/07/2018	Term 2 decided in Autumn 2017