

Dear Parents and Friends,

## Welcome to Reception

Last Friday this year's Reception children gathered at the front of the hall for a special moment of 'Welcome'. A prayer was read and they added their stone to the school collection. I am always amazed at the number of times children stop by the plate during the day and search for their own stone (or gather by the 'historic' school photos to identify siblings, uncles and parents). Part of our school visions reads "Ours is a school... providing a happy, healthy and secure environment where all are respected, valued and encouraged to contribute." Big words to understand when you are 4 years old, but these small touches and moments of symbolism are designed to say "You are special and at North Nibley you are welcome."



**WEBSITE** I am very aware that something critical has gone wrong with the website (on the eve of our Open Day too!) The company which hosts the site are working to resolve the issue. Those hoping to use the website to follow our Twitter feed during our London Residential are instead asked to browse to <https://twitter.com/NibleySchool> (anyone can see this!) Alternatively you might want to sign up to Twitter and follow @NibleySchool.

**LONDON** During the London Residential Ms Parker and Governor Peter Hall take responsibility for Safeguarding.

**SHOEBOXES** The deadline for returns this year is Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

**FLU VACCINATIONS** A reminder that you are strongly encouraged to respond to this treatment opportunity online. The administrator writes "We appreciate this is a new method of gaining consent and would like to support parents by providing a link directly for parents which they can copy and paste it into the tool bar or click on for direct access. The online consent link is : <https://www.glos-care.nhs.uk/vaccinationsystem/fluconsent> ." Those with emailed copies of the newsletter can 'click through' from the link above. Please tell US if you do not wish your child to have the immunisation.

**NEWSLETTER** I have responded to every request emailed to me to add or re-add parents and carers to the newsletter list. If there has been no improvement, please see me directly! I suspect some of your filters object to emails being sent to large numbers of recipients, and filter the results. Please check your clutter/spam folders and add the school domain to your 'Safe Senders' list. If you wish to report new problems please send an email to [newsletter@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:newsletter@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk)

**HOMEWORK** Coming home this week is a list of the 'non-negotiables' that we are expecting in written homework. The list is a starting point. Clearly once new concepts and skills have been taught, our expectations will rise (and we will republish this list!) We are preparing the children for a season of 'tough love' – clearly if the work is not good enough we do them no favours treating the work as acceptable. By informing you in this way of what we will (and will not accept) we put you in a stronger position to support your child's progress. Thank you for your help in this matter. It really makes a difference.

### SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FOR VOLUNTEERS – THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

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 have arranged a meeting for Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 7:00, where you can receive some important updates to help you play your part in keeping children safe.

**WRAP-AROUND CARE** Jon from Superstars, the Wrap-around care providers, was in school last week and confirmed that they are just waiting for Ofsted to visit this site and agree. We have created a page on our website - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/wrap-around-care-breakfast-and-after-school-care-club/> which links to the Superstars site. All updates leading to the commencement of the service will be posted there.

**UNIFORM ORDER DEADLINE** If you'd like to catch this term's free delivery option, your orders need to be received by 16<sup>th</sup> October. See [www.linelashop.co.uk](http://www.linelashop.co.uk)

**HARVEST FESTIVAL** Our service is on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October, starting at 2:15. As well as a 'thought for the day' and a song or two, we would like to make a presentation of items of food, either fresh or in tins/packets, which St. Martin's will auction at their annual Harvest Supper. If you could be so kind as to send your child to school on the 10<sup>th</sup> with an item, either fresh or packaged, we will make a grand presentation of all the donations during the service.

<b>DIARY DATES HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE SCHOOL WEBSITE. SEE <a href="http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/school-diary/">http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/school-diary/</a></b>			
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Cross-Country Race at KLB, 9:30 for a 10:00 start Have we had your permission slip?		
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	OPEN DAY – join us for the morning and find out why we love our school!		
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Festival, 2:15 in St. Martins NO VIOLIN LESSONS TODAY		
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup>	FONNS AGM 7:30, School Hall. Drinks and nibbles and a discussion about the future!		
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup>	Annual 'Reception' photo for publication by the Gazette		
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup> to	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> OCT London Residential <b>NO BLOGGING CLUB</b>		
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Extended staff meeting, so <b>NO YOUNG VOICES CHOIR</b> Deadline for Linela Uniform order		
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	More staff training! <b>NO TEXTILES CLUB, NO TABLE TENNIS CLUB, NO ART CLUB</b>		
Weds 18 <sup>th</sup>	Class 3 trip – Gloucester City Museum Gazette Photograph of Reception Children		
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of TERM 1. <b>TERM 2 BEGINS ON TUESDAY 31st OCTOBER – NOT MONDAY!</b>		
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



**Have you also seen...( In the Virtual Bookbag this week )**

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. The Virtual Bookbag <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/virtual-bookbag/> is updated late on Friday.

- Non-negotiables at home and school – a "Supporting Learning" booklet
- Uniform order form
- Parent-Governor election letter
- Class 3 Trip Letter
- SERVICE – our school Christian Value for the term
- Reading Challenge sheets (all but Class 3 today, and everyone by next week)

### Important health message from the NHS

We are writing to urge you to check that you have received two doses of Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine and to be aware of the signs and symptoms of measles, following notification of three confirmed and six probable cases of measles in children and young adults in the Gloucestershire area, with a particular concentration around Stroud.

Measles is a highly infectious viral illness that can be very unpleasant and sometimes lead to serious complications.

Symptoms of measles include the following:

- Cold-like symptoms such as runny nose, red, watery and painful eyes (conjunctivitis)
- High temperature
- Aches and pains
- Dry cough
- Red-brown spotty rash that usually starts behind the ears and spreads to the head and neck or to the rest of the body

If you have any of these symptoms, it is very important to take the following steps to prevent spreading the disease to others:

- Please telephone your GP surgery in the first instance. It is also very important not to go to your GP Practice as you risk passing on the infection to others in the waiting room.
- Please keep away from work or school settings and other people, for five days from when the rash first appeared.
- You should also ensure that you avoid coming into contact with other persons who may be particularly vulnerable. The risk of very serious illness is especially greater in unborn babies of pregnant women, newborn babies, persons with HIV/AIDS, leukaemia and those on cancer drugs.

There is no need to change your school routine unless you suspect you have measles. We would like to remind you to check with your GP that you are up-to-date with immunisations especially the MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccine to ensure that you are protected against those diseases. Further information about measles and MMR can be found by visiting <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/Pages/Introduction.aspx>