



Friday 26th June 2015

NEWSLETTER 135

Fun with the digits 1,3 and 5.....

$135 = (1 + 3 + 5)(1 \times 3 \times 5)$

Term 6	01/06/15	-	17/07/15
Term 1	03/09/15	-	21/10/15
Term 2	02/11/15	-	18/12/15
Term 3	04/01/16	-	12/02/16
Term 4	23/02/16	-	24/03/16
Term 5	11/04/16	-	27/05/16

North Nibley Church of England Primary School, The Street, North Nibley, Glos. GL11 6DL www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk
Head Teacher: Paul Batchelor B.Ed (Hons), N.P.Q.H. 01453 542600 admin@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk

This term's value in focus is 'Service' ~ keep your eyes open and look out for ways to make others smile!

Dear Parents and Friends,

As the year progresses there's never any talk of 'winding down! We are so busy that there was no newsletter from me last week. To make up, we have a bumper issue full of the news you might have missed, and a lot more planned for next issue.



A Day to Remember

Year 6 were taken to Gloucester Cathedral as part of what we do to say "Thank you", "Well done" and "Goodbye" to the oldest children in the school, as they prepare to leave behind their Primary School years. Close to 2,500 Year 6 pupils in the Diocese of Gloucestershire take part in this celebration each year, spread across 8 services which pack the cathedral. 'Friend of the school' Miz, from iSingPop, was on hand to provide some lively new tunes for the children to sing. Afterwards we enjoyed an ice cream in the sunshine and found six (six!) 4-leaf clovers plants.



First Aid Day All classes received some first aid training on Wednesday, as appropriate to their age. The youngest learnt about the importance of the '999' call whilst the oldest learnt resuscitation techniques and practised chest compression on dummies. They were also 'treated' to a casualty simulation, complete with gory make-up! A memorable day.



Days of Yore

Last week Class 4 went on a visit to the National Waterways Museum, in order to support learning about water. They were able to dress up, build power boats, experience life in a crowded narrowboat, and ride down the river to learn more about trade on the canals. They really enjoyed it.



Open Day

On Friday we held an open day, primarily for those joining in September, we also hosted some families looking to move here further up the school, as well as those thinking about September 2016. Classes 2 and 3 entertained us with their dances which have been part of their PE and Languages curriculum, Class 2 are pictured above in the middle of the Indian Stick Dance, and Class 3 demonstrating an intricate flamenco dance. The violin players entertained Nibley Nibbles Café and the orchestra played in assembly to a packed hall. The visitors were mightily impressed!

SPORTING SENSATIONS



The first of our sports days was very successful. We whistled through nearly 40 competitive races, with children earning points for places and contributing those points to team totals. Team 'Earth', in green, were thrilled with their 1st place, though many other boys and girls got onto the podium from other teams too. My grateful thanks go to all those who organised and led the event, the volunteers and parents who served refreshments. Still to come – the Y6 'Play Leader's' Sports Day with its carousel of activities and sports.

NEXT TIME


A full report on the District Sports – both Field and Track events.

School Uniform and P.E. Kit reminders

We have noticed that a number of families are becoming rather 'relaxed' about our uniform standards. Whilst I completely understand – and agree – that replacing shoes at this point in the year is an unnecessary expense (it's best to wait until September) – other aspects of our uniform are in need of a 'tidy'. This includes avoiding brightly coloured socks and leggings. Skirts and trousers should be dark grey or black. Any 'alternative' shoes in use should be safe and suitable for running about in the playground and field. There are no reasons why nail varnish, or make up, are required at school, and children should remove this. We are also convinced that children need the required P.E. kit in school, including shorts, so that they can enjoy full movement and the outdoor weather. Please have another look and make the changes required. More we have to have a conversation!

New Book Club We have created an account at www.myschoolbookclub.co.uk as an additional way to help the school raise funds. When you are considering buying books please investigate this resource since profits derived from online sales can benefit all our pupils. There are special offers each month and the books are highly recommended.

- The club is supported by leading authors
- All orders earn 20% in free books for your school
- Best books at unbeatable prices to encourage reading
- Books delivered straight to parents' homes

	<p>This week's snack ideas! Try dipping raw vegetables in home-made guacamole. Avocados are great for you because they're low in saturated fat. What you'll need: Two large, ripe avocados, 3 cloves of crushed garlic 1/2 finely chopped onion, Juice of a lemon. Cut each avocado in half, remove the stone. Scoop the flesh out and mash with a fork. Add the garlic, onion and juice, mix and season with pepper. If you have a great idea to add, please let me know. Email newsletter@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk with your ideas (and get the newsletter by email every week!)</p>
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"NIBBLEY NIBBLES" Our Nibley Nibbles Café, run by Year 5s & 6s is open on Friday's, raising money to support October's London residential trip and providing parents with an ideal start to the weekend. Hopefully the sun will shine! Starts at 2:00 pm.

School Website Numerous updates: Virtual tour, Autumn School Meals menu (improved), Archived news items 2010 to 2012, Equality and Diversity reports and other minor 'tweaks'.

Diary Dates Our online diary can be found at http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/?page_id=267

Monday 29 th June	To Friday 3 rd July – LAST WEEK for clubs		
Tuesday 30 th June	County Tennis Finals at Oxstalls		NEW
Weds 1 st JULY	Wildlife Quiz County Finals, 7:00 at Cirencester		NEW
Thursday 2 nd July	Rounders Festival at British 1:15 pm		
Friday 3 rd July	Taster session for our new Reception year. NIBBLES CAFÉ, 2:00	Year 5 language taster morning at KLB. Last day for Swiss Students	NIBLEY NEW
Monday 6 th July	Swimming Gala Governor Visit looking at impact of our Values and school Ethos		NEW
Thursday 9 th July	Junior musical production rehearsal for younger visitors grandparents etc		
Friday 10 th July	Rednock Induction Day for Year 6		NIBLEY NIBBLES CAFÉ, 2:00
Monday 13 th July	Aladdin Trouble! Junior musical production – evening performance 1		
Tuesday 14 th July	Aladdin Trouble! Junior musical production – evening performance 2		
Thursday 16 th July	Sports Day (2) – Afternoon - The Play Leaders from Class 4 take responsibility for this event!		
Friday 17 th July	Final day of the year. 9:30 am – Leavers service at St Martin's Church, North Nibley. FONNS End-of-year barbeque – see flyer for details.		

FONNS

FUNdraising for North Nibley CofE Primary School

END OF TERM PARTY

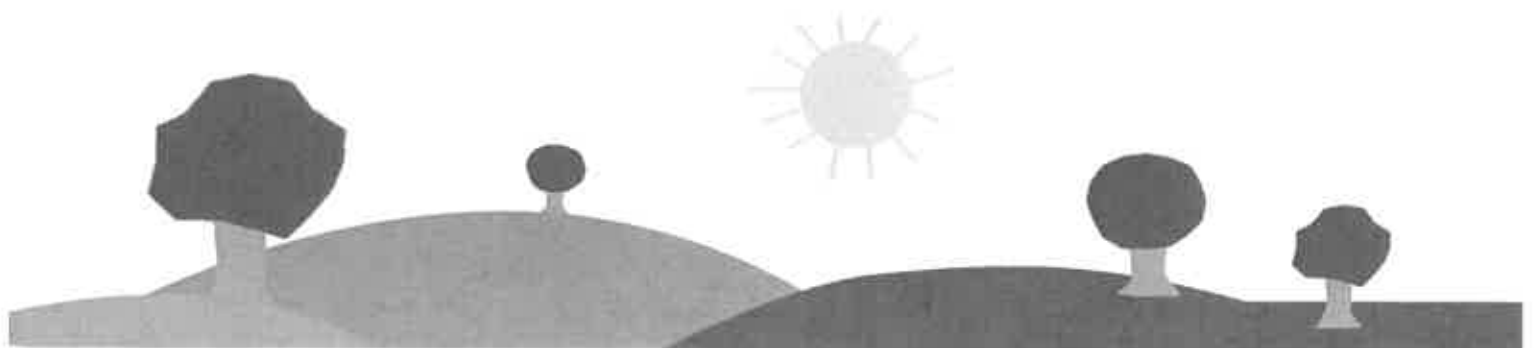
SAY FAREWELL TO THE YEAR 6'S AND HELLO TO THE
NEW RECEPTION

FRIDAY 17TH JULY

SCHOOL FIELD

5.30PM ONWARDS

BBQ, DRINKS AND FUN



NORTH NIBLEY C of E SCHOOL

25/6/15

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of your childs' time at North Nibley , with three weeks to go , it is important you allocate the correct lunch money as some of you have a substantial amount in credit .

I have listed below the balance information for each child at the end of the day today Thursday 25th June.

All leavers must be at zero.

Hope this is clear, if you have any queries on the amount I can give you a full history from the beginning of term.

Your child Balance.....

Mr P Batchelor

Head Teacher

Dear Parents,

23/06/2015

Music at North Nibley

For many years we have offered individual and small group tuition. Mrs Sargent is keen to continue her existing practice with violin lessons, and you can confirm your interest in violin lessons using the letter already provided.

We are now investigating the possibility of making CLASS instrumental tuition part of the normal, timetabled curriculum (at no cost to parents) Most likely we will start to learn to play ocarinas, and school will provide these. As well as having value in its own right, it is also our intent to grow the numbers of children who are keen to learn instruments. In turn this will provide 'demand' for individual and small group lessons in the future, and create sufficient numbers for a vibrant school orchestra, such as the one that played so well at Christmas and at our open day on Friday last week.

However, in order to provide sufficient hours for a peripatetic music teacher, it would be necessary to have some of the existing small group lessons after school. We need around 10 children to sign up to lessons.

Mrs Hale is a qualified teacher of the following instruments. Before we can go further, with our planning, we need serious expressions of interest for the following –

- Recorder
- Saxophone
- Flute
- Bassoon
- Clarinet
- Music Theory

There are some restrictions. Some instruments require learners to be a certain size. This helps with holding the instrument, with fingering and with 'puff'! Having your adult front teeth is a necessity for some instruments. Parents will need to provide, or hire, instruments. Recorder players can learn from Year 2 upwards, whilst the other instruments are best learnt from Year 3 or 4 upwards.

Costs are dependent on the numbers of children that sign up and all bookings are for a block of 10 lessons. This has varied in cost from £45- £53 in the past depending how many children wish to take lessons. A sample agreement form is attached FOR REFERENCE ONLY AT THIS STAGE.

If you are interested Mrs Hale will bring a variety of instruments to school on Wednesday 1st July. Please indicate below if you would like the opportunity to be assessed for tuition. Please be aware we can't guarantee tuition unless sufficient numbers come forward. Your child might be recommended for a '2nd choice' instrument in order to make a workable and cost-effective group, so please tick all that interest you.

Paul Batchelor, Head Teacher

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My child /ren.....

Would like to be assessed for readiness to learn the following (TICK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Recorder
- Saxophone
- Flute
- Bassoon
- Clarinet
- Music Theory

Until we have a number of slips returned we will be unable to decide which groups will meet and when.

I am willing to have lessons at the end of the school day. YES / NO

Signed Date



TUITION AGREEMENT

Music lessons from at School

Pupil:

Lesson length:

Tuition is hereby offered in subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. There will be 30 lessons provided in the academic year but not always 10 in each Autumn, Spring and Summer term as term lengths vary; 12, 10 and 8 is a common pattern.
2. Lessons fees will be invoiced by the school.
3. Group lessons offered at my discretion, when there are pupils who are of a similar standard and ability.
4. Lessons will be scheduled on a rota basis, where appropriate, to ensure minimum disruption to individual subjects.
5. I will endeavour to reschedule the lesson if notice of at least two weeks is given of the pupil's inability to attend, otherwise lessons missed by pupils will not be rescheduled.
6. An alternative session will be offered in the event that I have to cancel a lesson.
7. Pupils are required to bring a notebook to their lessons and complete practice tasks between lessons in order to maximise progress. Parents/Guardians are expected to support the pupil by monitoring practice and signing on a weekly basis. From time to time additional expenses will be necessary, such as music, strings, reeds, sticks, examination costs.
8. **Cancellation:** Lessons are committed to on a 10 week basis. Should you wish to stop lessons after a 10 week block, you are required to give notice in writing, before scheduled lessons 4, 14 and 24; these dates will be clearly shown on your current invoice.
9. Parents/Guardians consent to the school providing any relevant information relating to any specific issues or medical conditions relating to the individual pupils being taught by any member of the Cotswold Music Tutors group
10. If there is an unforeseen event resulting in the unavailability of myself to complete the block of 10 lessons I will endeavour to facilitate a replacement tutor.
11. I reserve the right to stop teaching a pupil at the end of a 10 week block (due to misbehaviour or lack of motivation) and will give notice in writing via the school.

*Please sign both copies; return ONE copy to me and keep the second copy for your reference.
Thank you.*

To be signed by Parent/Guardian:

I hereby accept the offer of tuition and agree to the terms stated above.

Signature

Date

Name (block capitals)

Address

Contact number

Email

NORTH NIBLEY C. OF E. (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

North Nibley,
Near Dursley,
Gloucestershire,
GL11 6DL



Headteacher: Mr P. Batchelor
Telephone No: (01453) 542600

Email: admin@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk
Web: www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk

23/6/15

Dear Parents/Carers,

This letter is relevant to all children currently having violin lessons, and those planning to have violin lessons in the future. (A separate letter will come home for other music tuition)

Could you please return this letter to indicate whether your child wishes to take music lessons next term starting September 22nd for 10 weeks.) Please return your booking slips with deposit by Friday 3rd July so that we can contract with Mrs Sargeant)

Please read the following carefully.

Colwall Arts centre is no longer employing peripatetic music tutors, and schools have been making direct arrangements with music tutors where there is a demand for lessons. This means the school will be booking the tutors who are working on a self-employed basis, and we need to ensure they have enough children to make it worthwhile. We also need to charge a deposit of £30.00 per child with your expression of interest form.

Music lessons will commence on the 22nd September for Violin with Mrs N. Sargeant. This term we are continuing to offer the opportunity to take lessons on the violin to the Year 1 and Year 2. If you do not already have an instrument for Violin the tutor will fill in the size needed and send order forms and bursary forms home with your child. These must be completed and sent with the correct money straight to the supplier, Colwell Music Centre. This is an additional cost to the tuition provided at school. They will not supply any instruments without the money up front. **These forms do not return to school.**

You will receive an invoice from School for the balance of the tuition a few weeks after term starts. Please note - once you have started the term, if you subsequently decide you no longer wish to have lessons, you will need to pay for the whole term as we base the cost on the number of children committed to lessons. This has varied in cost from £45- £53 in the past depending how many children wish to take lessons. All bookings are for a group of 10 lessons. We are not able to accept bookings for the Autumn term where balances are outstanding for the Summer term

Could you please return the completed reply slip below. If you do not there may not be spaces available for your child. Thank you

Mr P Batchelor Head Teacher

MUSIC LESSON Autumn 2015

My child /ren..... Would like to take Violin

lessons in the Autumn term 2015. I understand I am committing to pay for the term, and will pay the invoice promptly.

I enclose my deposit of £30.00.

I also understand there is a commitment to practise the instrument out of school time.

My childwishes to stop Violin

Signed Parent/ carer.



NORTH NIBLEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first of an irregular Newsletter which the Governors of North Nibley School are hoping will help communicate information about the Governors' work with the School.

A Parent Questionnaire was carried out in Spring 2015 and we had an excellent response - more on that later in the Newsletter. One area that came up was the desire for people to know more about what Governors do so this Newsletter is designed to help with that.

If we tried to cover everything in one go then it would be a pretty turgid read(!) so we hope the Newsletter approach can keep information more current and accessible.

If ever you would like to know more details at any time then do please approach a Governor to ask!

Contacting Governors

Governors are readily contactable.
Email Roly Brown - chair@northnibley.gloucs.gov.uk or send a letter or message via the School Office. Any Governor will be happy to help you.

So...WHO are 'The Governors'...?

Under recent Government guidance we reconstituted the Governing Board in May 2015. That basically means that we had to review how the Governing Board of North Nibley School is made up. As we are a Church of England Primary School, there was a fairly fixed framework we had to work with so the make-up of the Board hasn't changed hugely. The new structure of 14 Governors is therefore as follows:-

8 Foundation Governors - Foundation Governors are appointed by the Gloucester Diocese, usually based on a recommendation from the PCC (Parochial Church Council). One of the Foundation Governors is either the parish vicar or someone appointed by him/her. Peter Hall is appointed by the Vicar, Rob Axford. The other Foundation Governors are currently Sarah Corston, Di Hay, Sandy Revie, Emma Frith, Chris Huxley-Reynard and Roly Brown. There is also currently a vacancy for a Foundation Governor.

1 Head Teacher - Paul Batchelor

1 Staff Governor - This doesn't have to be a teacher. It can be any member of School staff, elected by the staff and this is currently Miss Rebecca Allen (Class 1 Teacher)

1 Local Authority Governor - This is someone appointed by the Local Authority and is currently Sue Bradley-Jones

2 Parent Governors - These Governors are elected by the parents of the School in an open ballot. They are currently Philippa Burrows and Tassos Stamatopoulos.

1 Co-Opted Governor - This is a new role created in our reconstitution. It enables the Governors to bring someone on board because of their specific skills without them having to satisfy any of the criteria of the other positions. The role hasn't been filled yet and we are actively seeking someone to come on board. More on that later...

Whatever role a Governor has and however they are elected on to the board, they are all equal.

In addition to the full Governor roles set out above, the re-constitution has also allowed us to bring on board Associate Members. These are people who have specific skills that might help one of the sub-committees without them having to have the commitments of a full Governor. Greg Smith is our only Associate Member at the moment. He is a valued member of the Finance & Premises Committee due, in particular, to his knowledge and experience of buildings, school premises and funding.

! Situations Vacant !

At the time of writing we currently have two vacancies on the Governing Board; one Foundation Governor and one Co-opted Governor.

We carry out an annual Skills Audit amongst the Governors to identify what skills we might need to assist us in our role as a whole Board. We have a good coverage of most skills but need some strength in depth in a few particular areas – these are:-

*Finance
Buildings
Health & Safety*

That doesn't mean that if you don't have particular skills in those areas that you wouldn't be a valued addition to the team but those areas are where we would like some additional depth.

The Foundation Governor would have to be proposed by the PCC and would therefore need to be someone who the PCC feel would support the Christian distinctiveness of North Nibley School. The Co-opted Governor role has no criteria other than having the time, energy, enthusiasm and skills to help out.

We would like to have these positions filled by or at the first Full Governing Board meeting of the new school year in September.

Please email Roly Brown on chair@northnibley.gloucs.gov.uk or via the School Office, or speak to a Governor you know for any further details.

A Governor will usually serve a four year term.

Strategy

It is easy to go from meeting to meeting focussing on important detail but the Strategic Direction of the School is one of the most important responsibilities the Governors have. This year we agreed the School vision having discussed it internally and consulted with the wider School community. We have decided to set some time aside in the new academic year (2015/16) to shape the future strategy of the School. What challenges do we normally face? Can we influence them if we plan ahead? Where should the School be in five years time? What do we need to achieve that? These are the sorts of questions we will ask ourselves so that we can build a strategy for the school.

...and WHAT do they do?

We are all part of the Full Governing Board (FGB) and that meets twice every long term, so six times a year. There are then three sub-committees and each Governor goes on at least one of those committees. These committees meet about two weeks before each FGB meeting. The committees are Leadership & Management, Teaching and Learning and Finance & Premises. The chairs of each committee then make up a separate group called the Steering Group (along with the Chair, Vice-Chair and Head Teacher).

The Governors have the responsibility for the overall long term direction of the School. We are like a board of Trustees. Whilst we have a duty to ensure that the day to day running of the School is effective, we are not responsible for the day to day running of the School. That responsibility is with the Head Teacher.

The Governors have to perform the role of 'Critical Friend' to the Head Teacher which is to be supportive, enquiring and constructively critical.

Governors also have the responsibility for the School finances. These are annually audited by the Local Authority.

Within all of this structure there are a lot of other more specific things that the Governors have to do - we have a pay panel, heads performance review panel, admissions panel, a lot of policies to review on a frequent basis. We each have a subject that we are responsible for overseeing and other non-subject areas such as Equal Opportunities, Special Education Needs, Health & Safety etc. To monitor those we carry out visits every now and again to see what is going on in School. We even pop in to see what the School Dinners are like sometimes!

It is important to stress that we are nothing special. Some of the Governors happen to be qualified teachers. Perhaps this encourages them to get involved as a Governor since they understand how schools work? The majority of us, however, don't have particular skills in the education world. We just have a willingness to give up our time to help, support and continually improve the School to the benefit of the children.

It is a very rewarding role and any Governor will be very happy to tell you more about what it involves and what they do.

We all have to follow a Code of Conduct for Governors and individual matters discussed at meetings are confidential but the role isn't a secretive one. The best way to find out more is to ask!

Current Roles

The Chair and Vice Chair roles are newly-elected each year at the first meeting of the School year in September. That is also when the make-up of the Committees are decided and those Chairs are elected at the first Committee meetings. The current Chair roles are as follows:-

Chair – Roly Brown Vice-Chair – Sarah Corston F&P Chair – Philippa Burrows L&M Chair – DI Hay

Parent Questionnaire – Thank you very much to all parents who filled out the questionnaire. We've been struck by how positive the overwhelming majority of responses have been. That isn't to say that we feel that everything is perfect and we don't need to worry about improving the school. The most valuable responses are those where we can see general direction that the parents would like to see the School go in and where we learn what is important to them. Many of the questions related to day to day school issues so the Head Teacher will be dealing with those responses but some specific areas are for the Governors to think about. FONNS did some amazing work with the new spiritual garden and that was recognised which is great. The next identified priority for improvement was the staff room so we have some plans in place to address that. We are also looking at broadband provision and how that will help children's learning.

NIBLEY C OF E SCHOOL

18/6/15

Dear Parents,

We had notification today that the Yr3 / 4 Kwik cricket, on Friday 26th June has been moved from Stroud to Frocester CC. All other details remain the same, although we may be back about 4.15pm (it's a bit closer!) unless they get through to the final round.

Best wishes

Mrs A Dixon.

Class Teacher