



Learning. Achievement. Faith & Fun!

NEWSLETTER 204

Thursday 13th July 2017

204 balls may be stacked in a pyramid with an 8 x 8 square base. 204 is a square pyramidal number.

North Nibley Church of England
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Dear Parents and Friends,

A Knight to Remember!



LEAVER'S SERVICE – THURSDAY 20th, ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, 9:30 a.m. All are invited as we celebrate the 'graduation' of this special group.

WHAT A SHOW! Awesome teamwork resulted in another triumph for the children and staff. Class 4 said afterwards "I felt honoured to be in a play that was so good". "It was fun to play the fool." "It felt strange being booed by the audience but I enjoyed it." "It was hard being pushed all the time and I got really hot inside the bald cap and the wig." "I enjoyed playing a baddie." "It was amazing! I enjoyed it and my parents thought I was really good, so that makes me proud." "It was brilliant and we worked well as a team. I was a bit nervous for the solo songs." "I enjoyed playing the part of the jester." "It was a great experience, but it was also a bit scary." "It was supreme and I thought it was even better than the previous year."

REPORTS We have been hard at work behind the scenes, teachers writing an average of 30,000 words and staff collating 1138 pieces of paper. The purpose is to give you, the parents, as accurate a picture as possible against the higher expectations. With that in mind, I suggest you pick a good time to open the reports, and choose what you will share, and how you will share it.

WEBSITE NEWS Over the Summer Holiday I will be making some fundamental changes to the structure of the website. Don't be surprised if the 100+ pages disappear for a while. Hopefully it will all come back in a little while, with improved page names. After the reports have gone out, you will be able to find the Autumn Menu (Revised) on the school website.

ADMINISTRATOR Paula Kirby was appointed last month to this role. Do please say hello when term starts.

LONDON A reminder to the 7 parents yet to pay, the balance is now due.

MATHS GAMES Mrs Marwood is giving up the coordination of the maths games, after a few years of faithful support. Is someone willing to take over (please)?

WINSTON'S WISH Earlier this term children voted to support the charity Winston's Wish. We have agreed that Wednesday 19th July will be a non-school uniform "WEAR W" day. Use your imagination and come in fancy dress. Think wigs, wings, wands, Wally, waiters, whales, wellies, weights, wildcats, water, wheels, waistcoats, watchdogs and wardrobes! The list is nearly endless (but this website helps! <http://noun1.com/start-w/>) (PLEASE – NO WEAPONS) Winston's Wish supports children struggling with bereavement of a loved one. Please make a donation, collected on the door in the morning.

Our Christian Values – THANKFULNESS "I have a lot to be thankful for. I am healthy, happy and I am loved." Reba McEntire

CLASS 1 RESOURCES In the past we have been supported by kind families taking our play and construction resources home over the summer for a good, hygienic wash. If you could help out, please see Mrs Dommert or Miss Allen.

SCHOOL UNIFORM UPDATE We are told that the new WEBSITE for school uniform ordering should be live sometime next week. At times of extreme heat, we are happy to accept sandals.

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 prior to the end of the school year. 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.

PARENT SURVEY Please complete the survey by visiting our website and choosing Parent Survey 2017 from the choices under the "Parent and Visitors" tab. **THE DEADLINE FOR YOUR ENTRY IS TOMORROW, FRIDAY 14th JULY.**

PLEASE WILL THE PARENT WHO WROTE "Newsletters used to be emailed to me but now I don't get them." Contact me directly please – newsletter@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk and I will try to rectify this.

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

Friday 14th	Bollywood Club perform in assembly. LIKELY day for end-of-year reports.		
Monday 17th	Monday Lunch		
Thursday 20th	Last day of term. Year 6 Leaver's Service 9:30 in St. Martin's Church (over the road). All invited. FONNS BBQ on the playing field – times to be confirmed. ALL INVITED, INCLUDING NEXT YEAR'S RECEPTION!		
TUES 5 TH SEPT	FIRST PUPIL DAY FOR (NEW) YEARS 1 TO 6 CHILDREN ← ← ← ← ← PLEASE NOTE		
SUMMER – Pupil days	AUTUMN 2017 – Pupil days	SPRING 2018 – Pupil days	NEXT SUMMER – Pupil days
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 5 16/04/2018 – 25/05/2018
Term 6 05/06/17 - 20/07/17	Term 2 31/10/2017 – 15/12/2017	Term 4 19/02/2018 – 29/03/2018	Term 6 4/06/18 – 24/07/2018



Dear Parents and Friends,

A Year to Remember!

**LEAVER'S SERVICE, THURSDAY 20th,
ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, 9:30 a.m.** All
are invited as we celebrate the
'graduation' of this special group.

WHAT A KNIGHT!

DVD Copies will be made available at a cost of £5 each,
profits go to the School Fund. Please sign up at school.
Copies will be made over the summer holiday and
distributed in September.

WEBSITE NEWS

Over the Summer Holiday I will be making some fundamental changes to the structure of the website. Don't be surprised if the 100+ pages disappear for a while. Hopefully it will all come back with improved page names.

Also on our website: School Results 2017, New Menu (Updated),

LONDON A reminder to the 4 parents yet to pay, the balance is now due.

WINSTON'S WISH

Earlier this term children voted to support the charity Winston's Wish. We have agreed that TOMORROW, Wednesday 19th July will be a non-school uniform "WEAR W" day. Use your imagination and come in fancy dress. Think wigs, wings, wands, Wally, waiters, whales, wellies, weights, wildcats, water, wheels, waistcoats, watchdogs and wardrobes! PLEASE – NO WEAPONS. Winston's Wish supports children struggling with bereavement of a loved one. Please make a donation, collected on the door in the morning.

"Be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus."
St. Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians, Chapter 5, verse 18.

MATHS GAMES Mrs Marwood is giving up the coordination of the maths games, after a few years of faithful support. We are most grateful for the time she has spent. Is someone willing to take over (please)?

THANK YOU

Our grateful thanks go to Year 10 Work experience young people Gabriel and Laura. You both did a super job during such a busy time. We hope you enjoyed 'the experience' and will stay in touch.

WATCH THIS SPACE!

Many of you will already have seen that more changes to our premises are planned. 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."

PARENT SURVEY

The results of the survey can be found on the school's website, under the Parents and Visitors tab on the main menu. Governors will communicate a formal response in the Autumn Term.





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. If you order by the 18th August it will arrive at school on the 5th of

September. 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

HELP!

If anyone is available to water the plants at the front of the school, or top up the pond in the spiritual garden, it would be much appreciated.

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.

PARENTPAY ACCOUNTS

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CLASS 1 RESOURCES

In the past we have been supported by kind families taking our play and construction resources home over the summer for a good, hygienic wash. If you could help out, please see Mrs Dommett or Miss Allen.



NEW FEATURE!

I will try to let parents know what the 'other items coming home' are since in the survey some parents state that there are items which don't make it all the way home. Don't forget the 'Virtual Bookbag', on our website! This week – Governor's Newsletter, the library's SUMMER READING CHALLENGE.



On behalf of the staff team and the governors, I wish you all the very best Summer holiday! Keep reading, keep writing and keep learning whatever age you are and wherever you go! Postcards can be sent by post to the school address above and we'd love to receive them. Mr Batchelor.

DIARY DATES

TOMORROW	DRESS UP 'W' FOR WINSTON'S WISH. See above.		
Thursday 20th	Leaver's Service, 9:30 at St. Martin's Church. All are welcome. FONNS End-of-year BBQ, on the field. Family games and fun in the sun. A lovely way to finish the year. 5:00 p.m.		
Friday 21st	INSET for teachers. No pupils thank you! See you in September.		
TUES 5 TH SEPT	FIRST PUPIL DAY FOR (NEW) YEARS 1 TO 6 CHILDREN ← ← ← ← ← PLEASE NOTE		
THURS 7th	First session for our new Reception Group.		
Monday 11th	First Swimming Lessons for Years 3 & 4.		
Tuesday 12th	Violins start back.		
Weds 13th	Woodwind lessons re-start.		
Monday 18th	Reception children stay for lunch. Please collect your child at the end of lunchtime – 1.05pm would be great!		
Thursday 21st	First Full Governing Body Meeting		
Monday 25th	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!		
Weds 11 th – Friday 13 th OCT	London Residential		
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

NORTH NIBLEY C. OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

North Nibley
Near Dursley
Gloucestershire
GL11 6DL



18/07/17

Dear Parents

We propose to take all Year 3 and 4 children to Dursley for Swimming on Monday afternoons, commencing **Monday 11th September 2017**. The children will leave school by KB Coaches at approximately 1.30pm and return before the end of the school day. The dates are as follows:

September 11th/18th/25th

October 2nd/9th/16th

(Half term is Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October 2017 with Inset day on 30th October)

November 6th/13th/20th and 27th

The cost of swimming for the term is **£55.00** to include the coach, entrance into the pool and qualified instructors. If you prefer, you can make weekly payments of **£5.50** and payment for this will be via **ParentPay ONLY**. Your unique ParentPay logon details are enclosed with this letter but if you have any problems or require any assistance please do not hesitate to contact either the school office or ParentPay who will also be able to assist you. Some parents may already be using parentPay and the instructions for adding another child to your existing account are also included. The children will be swimming for 10 weeks this term. If any parent feels unable to make this contribution could they please arrange a confidential conversation with Mr Batchelor.

Please make sure your child has swimming kit available for Monday September 11th.

We are always grateful for any help you may be able to provide and if any parent feels able to volunteer to help with this event please speak to Miss Parker or the office who will be arranging a rota.

Swimming is a legally required part of the curriculum, and as such is not voluntary.

Yours sincerely

Julie Bargewell
Administrator

✂

Yr 3 and 4 Swimming lessons at Dursley Swimming Pool during the
Autumn Term 2017 – commencing Monday 11th September 2017

I am / am not happy for my child _____ to take part in this event and I am willing to make a weekly contribution via ParentPay of either **£5.50 per week** or a **single one-off payment of £55.00** for the term of 10 weeks.

My Child requires an inhaler for this event

Yes

No

Signed:

Date:

SENT TO ALL SEPTEMBER YR 3 & 4 SWIMMERS – 18/07/17

To the Parent/Guardian of

Dear Mr & Mrs

Pupil: **Class:**

In an attempt to remove all cash and cheques from school we are asking all parents to only use our e-payment method to pay for **dinner money, swimming, trips, music lessons etc** . This can be done online using a very secure website called ParentPay or in cash at local stores where you see the PayPoint logo.

Already have a ParentPay account?

If you already have a ParentPay account, either with our school or another ParentPay school, you can simply login to that account and add your other children via the **Add a child** tab on your home page. You will need the below activation username and password to do this.

New to ParentPay?

You have a secure online account, activated using a unique activation username and password; you will be prompted to change these and to keep them safe and secure as your Username and Password for future logins.

If you have two or more children at a ParentPay school, you only need to activate one account to create your 'main account' and then add your other children via the **Add a child tab** on your home page.

Please visit www.parentpay.com and activate your account via the **Account login** area on the home page of the site.

Username:

Password:

ParentPay holds an electronic record of your payments to view at a later date. Once you have activated your account you can make online payments straight away. Those parents wishing to pay cash should contact the school office to request the option of paying via PayPoint. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you need assistance.

Your support in using ParentPay will help the school enormously, thank you.

Yours sincerely
Mr Paul Batchelor
Headteacher

Our Vision is to inspire and
celebrate Learning,
Achievement, Faith and Fun!



NORTH NIBLEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

As the new Chair of Governors this year I have been finding my feet, much aided by Roly Brown, the outgoing Chair, and all the other governors, who are a most supportive and committed team.

School governors have three main responsibilities: holding the Head Teacher to account, setting the strategic direction of the school and overseeing the good management of the school budget. In practice this translates into working closely with the Head Teacher and his staff, and being involved in many aspects of school life, from drains to admissions. We are in no way involved in decisions re curriculum and teaching methods, but other decisions come thick and fast!

We believe that regular communication with parents and friends of the school is important, so that you know how the governors are working with the school. The termly governor newsletters seem to have been popular, and now at the end of the school year we have an opportunity to give a round-up of our activity this year.

We have held our full quota of Governing Board and committee meetings, with the Head Teacher, an ex-officio governor, present at all these meetings. Here, in summary, are the things we covered:

Contacting Governors

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

The Full Governing Board

This has overall responsibility for ensuring that the governors are fulfilling their obligations, and is accountable for the effective operation of the committees and panels. Central to every FGB meeting is the Head Teacher's report, updating governors on all aspects of the school life.

- At the first meeting of each year we agree with the Head Teacher a number of school improvement priorities; during the year we help monitor these, and at the end of the year we review progress against them
- The governors have to approve the school budget for the forthcoming year, and that has been done
- The biggest decision we have made collectively this year has been to invite a company to set up a before-and-after school club. If the scheme goes ahead it will benefit many working parents, as well as being a feature to attract families to the school in future, always having in mind the importance of keeping pupils numbers at the right level
- We decided to implement a 'governor of the month' system for governor visits

The Learning and Management Committee

This committee has specific responsibility for staff management, development and well-being, together with parent and community communication, and planning for the future needs of the school.

This year the committee has:

- Followed up the 2015-16 parent survey responses e.g. the interest in 'wrap-around' care
- Recruited a teaching assistant and two administrators
- Developed a governor recruitment process, including making it easier for those interested in becoming a governor to find out more and meet us
- Created guidelines on admissions that take account of the school's resources and capacity, and of the desired maximum numbers of pupils per class, but which also allow some flexibility

The Finance and Premises Committee

As its name implies this committee oversees the school's finances, scrutinises its budget, approves new items of expenditure and authorises work in the building and the grounds.

This year the committee has:

- Authorised and overseen various improvements to the school premises including the upgraded playground, improved storage in the main corridor and staff room, corridor redecoration, repair of one of the main chimneys and other minor works, including improvement to the drains.
- Purchased tables and seating for the staffroom, and new benches and tables for outside
- Employed a handyman to carry out a number of small and medium size jobs throughout the school
- Evaluated last year's spending and helped to draw up the new school budget for 17/18, with the aim of making best use of the tight available budget
- Approved the budgets for the appointment of the new administrators

The Teaching & Learning Committee

This committee is responsible for monitoring teaching and learning across the school, taking an active role in the setting and monitoring of progress in the current priorities specified in the school improvement plan.

This year the committee has focussed on:

- Monitoring the progress of new writing initiatives aimed at improving writing across the school
- Monitoring the progress of the school's efforts to further engage parents in their child's education
- Monitoring maths and the impact of the new initiatives [e.g. maths passports]
- Evaluation of the previous Year standards in detail
- Review of academic performance data

The Strategy Group

This is our recently formed group for the governors to discuss ideas in an informal way not possible within the straitjacket of the committee structures. It's an opportunity to suggest and develop new initiatives, and to think of ways we can best underpin improvements in line with our school values.

This year the committee followed up on some of last year's themes, and introduced some new topics:

- Governor effectiveness and improved governance
- Head Teacher workload
- Wrap-around care
- Parental engagement with their own child's learning
- Premises weaknesses, with a focus on the possibility of having a 'break-out' building for small group work
- Consideration of funding sources for the school improvements.
- Review of optimum school size and fluctuating numbers
- Church school distinctiveness
- A better use of governor visits to the school to drive improvements

Governor resignations and appointments.

One Foundation governor was appointed during the year, but had to resign quite soon afterwards because of changed personal circumstances.

A new local authority governor was appointed, Fiona Yarrow, who has useful professional experience for the Premises and Finance Committee.

Two governors come to the end of their current term of office at the end of July, and have decided not to stand for another term. Di Hay has been a governor at the school for 12 years, and been an extremely knowledgeable and constructive part of the governor team. Roland Brown has been a governor for 6 years, two of which were as Chair, and was a great contributor to the development and governance of the Board. The skills and good humour of both of them will be much missed.

One new Foundation Governor is about to be appointed, Anita Fletcher, and we hope to fill the remaining gaps on the Board shortly. Don't be shy to enquire about becoming a governor, and there is information on the web site about the work involved.

Summary

I hope this summary gives a picture of the wide range of work covered this year by the governors, and the decisions we have been involved in. Inevitably there are areas, such as our budget, where we have limited power to improve things, and others, such as monitoring results, that are ongoing year on year. But some specific goals have been achieved this year, and we have a clear idea of where we see the next improvements coming from.

We are very lucky to be governors of such an exceptionally nice school as North Nibley. Our dedicated and skilled Head Teacher, and his equally committed team of staff, work incredibly hard to achieve the best for the school, and that is reflected in the happy atmosphere, good behaviour and many achievements of the children there. We thank them for their dedication.

Sue Bradley-Jones, Chair of Governors

The results of the Parent Survey 2017 can be found on the website under the 'Parents and Visitors' tab on the main menu. We will respond formally in September.