

NEWSLETTER 227

Thursday 29th March 2018

On this day in 1961, a 4½ year trial finds Nelson Mandela not guilty of treason.

Dear Parents and Friends,

County Finalists – Netball and Hockey

On Tuesday it was a privilege to attend the County Finals in Netball and Hockey. We were told that we were already in the top 10% of the county, which for a small school is a real achievement in itself. After a photo-op with the Old Spot pig (see twitter, @NorthSchool) the tournament was underway! "Both events were at Cheltenham College." Netball - "The weather was alright and the netball courts looked really cool!" "There were ten teams." "We played 4 matches." "In each game we had different roles which we had to rotate. Referees checked up that we were rotating properly." "We lost three and won one." "We tried our best, coming 8th overall." Hockey – "We had an amazing time playing." "We lost two matches out of six, but won the other 4." "We had two goalies who swapped duties. The rules said there have to be 2 boys and three girls on the pitch at any one time." "We came 10th out of 20 schools." "We are very proud of the way that we played together."



Security You may have heard of a recent school bomb hoax. This was part of a nationwide hoax. Never-the-less we have to remain vigilant and therefore we wish to remind you that on NO ACCOUNT should anyone – children or adults – bring in to school packages from someone that you personally do not recognise as one who is associated with our school. This message has been shared with the children too. Genuine couriers will understand why you might politely decline a request to take any package the last few metres into the school (past our CCTV camera!)

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE join us and other parents of the Tyndale Cluster schools when we run a parent meeting on e-safety awareness. We have booked 'e-safety expert' Alan Mackenzie to lead us, here on **18th APRIL 2018**. The event starts at 6:30 p.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m. Head Teachers from 12 local schools will be meeting with Alan in the afternoon. Those of us charged with Child Protection take this very seriously, and with good reason.



WHERE IN THE WORLD? – Children might be interested to know that I have added a world globe to the front page of the school's website. You can watch it spin, 'zoom in' to spot the countries that are visiting our site (the red dots), and explore the data for yourselves if you wish.

Can we have our books back? We are running up a large photocopying bill producing our Maths Passport help booklets. Please return the ones you no longer need. It would be good to see a number returned after the half-term break. Thank you.

Book reviews Even more book reviews have been added to our website. See what other children in your Year group are reading. Why not complete a book review of your own over the Easter break? Book reviews are not limited to the reading challenge list. We'd love to read your thoughts on anything you are currently reading. (And it would also help to keep your writing skills sharp!)

CAN YOU HELP? Last week I listed a number of ways that our community might be able to help us save money in these increasingly difficult times. I've added another idea at the top of the list.

- Do we have parents or contacts who might be able to help us tune our piano?
- Do we have parents or contacts who might be able to help us with a new photocopier contract?
- Do we have amongst our community any experts in SharePoint or Microsoft Teams?
- Do we have a qualified 'friend' who might be willing to act as a Data Protection Officer?
- We are looking for someone with good DIY skills to help make a repair or two around the school.
- Do we have in our community a qualified volunteer who could PAT test appliances around the school?
- We would be very pleased to received donations of boxes or tissues since colds seem particularly 'popular' at the moment. Thank you.

Whoops! Last week I credited ex-caterers Edwards and Ward with the 5 star rating for hygiene. The credit should, of course, have gone to Caterlink. The Summer Menu has been added to our website here – <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/school-meals-menus/> Don't forget the meal price has risen to £2.36

ParentPay We have become a CASHLESS SCHOOL (excluding charity donations). Please support us by remembering that all payments need to go through ParentPay. Thank you. If you have any difficulties, please approach the office staff directly.

Compassion is our Christian Value in Focus: "Shout for joy, you heavens; rejoice, you earth; burst into song, you mountains! For the LORD comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones." Isaiah 49 v 13.

SUMMER TERM CLUBS Please let me know if you are planning to run a club in the summer term. The quicker we can compile the 'menu', the quicker we can start!

Safeguarding update Previously I wrote..."February has come around quickly, and it is time for our annual check on 'disqualification by association'. This means we require you to confirm that you are still eligible to work, or volunteer, at our school, by completing 6 "Yes or no" type questions. I do appreciate that for new volunteers it might seem like only last month you confirmed your answers, but since we have over 108 of these to compile we took the decision to do this once per year – and that time is now! Look out for your letter and return as soon as possible. Thank you." **There are a number of these that have not been returned. We will have to interpret this as an indication that you are no longer willing to volunteer, and remove you from our lists accordingly!**

MUSIC LESSONS The balance of payments for music lessons is now due. Those hoping to take lessons in violin, clarinet, flute, saxophone or recorder should let us know as soon as possible please. Violins start back on Monday 16th April, woodwind lessons start back on Wednesday 25th April.

Stamps – please save your stamps for our charity box in the foyer.

Prayer We've submitted a prayer for the Diocesan Calendar of Intercession, which you can download from this link. <http://www.gloucester.anglican.org/about-us/christian-faith-what-we-believe/calendar-of-intercessions/>

**Good bye Mrs Lewis!
(or – 'Hare today, gone tomorrow!')**

Today marks the end of an era, with Mrs Lewis all set to begin a long and happy retirement from regular school life. She has plans – most of which seem to involve running, or travelling, and even travelling in order to run in new and exciting places. We want to thank her for her support over the years, in the classroom, behind the scenes in so many productions, and of course on the cross-country circuit. We ask that she keeps in touch and wish her well in all her pursuits.



HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE.
FIRST PUPIL DAY BACK AT SCHOOL MONDAY 16th APRIL.

DIARY DATES HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE SCHOOL WEBSITE. SEE http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/school-diary/			
Thursday 29 th LAST DAY OF TERM	NO BLOGGING CLUB today Final assembly of the term, in a Friday style. Starting at 2:40 We will be saying 'Good bye' to Mrs Lewis. Don't forget to take home coats, scarves, hats, wellies, drinks bottles, sandwich boxes, violins, recorders, music books, homework and spellings and reading books.		
Mon 16 th April	FIRST DAY BACK FOR ALL PUPILS		
Tuesday 17 th	Class 4 trip to the National Space Centre. PLEASE NOTE THE 8:00 a.m. LEAVING TIME.		
Weds 18 th	Year 5 Tyndale Cluster maths event, here at school, Year 6 Tag Rugby PARENT e-safety awareness meeting – 6:30 here at school. See above for details		
Monday 23 rd	Classes 1 & 2 visit to the Cathedral and Mosque in Gloucester		
SUMMER 2018 – Pupil days	AUTUMN 2018 – Pupil days	NEXT SPRING 2019 – Pupil days	NEXT SUMMER 2019 – Pupil days
Term 5 16/04/2018 – 25/05/2018	Term 1 04/09/2018 – 19/10/2018	Term 3 07/01/2019 – 15/02/2019	Term 5 23/04/2019 – 24/05/2019
Term 6 04/06/2018 – 24/07/2018	Term 2 30/10/2018 – 20/12/2018	Term 4 25/02/2019 – 05/04/2019	Term 6 03/06/2019 – 19/07/2019
The Virtual Bookbag http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/virtual-bookbag/ is updated late on Friday. In it this week -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 25%;">• SeaLife voucher <li style="width: 25%;">• Linela Uniform letter <li style="width: 25%;">• Headlice letter <li style="width: 25%;">• Governor Newslette <li style="width: 25%;">• Online Safety Parent Evening – return slip <li style="width: 25%;">• All Stars Cricket 		