



Learning, Achievement, Faith & Fun!



NEWSLETTER 228

Monday 23rd April 2018 – ST GEORGE'S DAY

On this day in 1838 the English steamship "Great Western" crossed the Atlantic.

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Dear Parents and Friends,

STAFFING NEWS

Mrs Dommett, Teaching Assistant in Class 1 and Mid-Day Supervisor, has announced her resignation. Thursday 24th May will be her last day with us before she relocates to be closer to family. Over many years she has played a significant part in providing children with an excellent start to school and we will be sorry to see her go, but she takes with her ever good wish for the future. We will advise you on our plans shortly.

PERSEVERANCE IS OUR CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS: It is defined as "continuing to do something (requiring effort and determination) despite difficulty or delay in achieving success." In the Bible it is often used in connection steadfastness and endurance in the face of trials. Faith in God and hope are emphasized in our work today.

ONLINE SAFETY

There was a fantastic turn out from North Nibley, so well done! I am indebted to Chair of Governors Sue Bradley-Jones for the notes she took on the night itself.

- Opportunities of internet far outweigh the risks: education, fun, contact with friends etc.
- It's a constantly developing area so it's hard to keep up to date
- There is no such thing as a 'safe' or 'unsafe' environment on the internet
- There are three aspects to consider: content (what is being shown in the sites your child uses), contact (i.e. who is trying to contact your child, usually just advertisers, but sometimes more sinister) and conduct (how your child uses the internet)
- The blue light frequency of a screen affects sleep rhythms, so don't use a screen for a least an hour before going to bed.
- **Most important: talk to your children about how they are using the internet. Don't 'spy' on their internet use, but have open conversations with them about how they are using it and what the risks are. You can help make them more resilient.**
- There are three main uses of the internet by children: gaming, You Tube and social media.
- **Gaming:** The social aspect of gaming with friends online most interests children. The games are age specific – those designated for over 18s are not suitable for children. Games (e.g. Minecraft, Roblox, Fortnite) are worlds within which children can create their own games and are not passive entertainment. They have over a 100 million regular users.
- **You Tube:** 400 hours of video are uploaded every 60 seconds, so the content is not pre-mediated. There are 10,000 mediators scanning the content once it's uploaded, but it's nowhere near enough. YouTube will respond to complaints, after unhelpful content is viewed. YouTube thinks that if you've watched 1 unhelpful video, you will want to see more. It needs to be taught to stop doing this. Editing watched and search history helps. The 5 favourite categories for kids are gaming, funny, music, unboxing and slime (ask your children to explain the last two but they are more innocent than they sound!) You Tube is compulsive! You can use the search facility to look at your child's watch and search history and delete anything that has led to disturbing material being viewed.
- **Social Media:** 2.75 billion people use it. Although the laws on advertising prevent social media sites being offered to anybody under 13, in reality 60% of year 6 kids are using them. Most popular with young people are Snapchat and Instagram. Two potentially risky uses of these media are location sharing and live streaming, both of which are easy ways for the few bad guys around to access children.

In summary: What can parents do to help their children stay safe and happy online? There are of course various technical controls to filter and monitor your child's internet use. But more important is to be involved and to set boundaries. Keep up to date with the latest online developments and limit their screen time (although there are no general rules for what is the right amount). Above all, talk to your children about how they use the internet.

Useful web sites: These can be accessed from our own Online Safety page
<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/staying-safe-online/>

- www.internetmatters.org – highly recommended
- www.esafety-advisor.com/resoures - parent resources
- www.common sense media.org – good for advice on gaming

WEBSITE UPDATE We have improved access to information about our classes and topics. Follow this link <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/our-classes-and-topic-plans-2017-18/> On the front page the news headline 'ticker' on the website has been changed to be compliant with mobile devices, such as phones.



EDUCATION IN THE NEWS

"Monosyllabic adolescents may be nothing new, but the latest research suggests a big chunk of them do not know enough words to do well at school. According to academics, four out of 10 pupils in their first year of secondary school have such a limited vocabulary that it is affecting their learning. Many teachers from the 800 secondaries involved in the Oxford University Press research say the problem is worsening. They blame the "word gap" on too little reading for pleasure. Studies suggest breadth of vocabulary is strongly influenced by the number of words a child comes into contact with on a daily basis. This includes conversations with parents, siblings and friends, as well as what they read." From the BBC news site, 21/04/2018

At North Nibley we have been promoting our reading lists all year, but it's never too late to start. You can access the lists, download checklists from here - <http://northnibley.weebly.com/book-lists.html> In recent weeks we have added additional books as recommended by the children of Class 4, and in due course will add other recommendations too.

The DFE have tweeted: "Parents, looking for ideas for your child's next #book? Check out @Booktrust #Bookfinder. You can search by age and genre: ow.ly/MGMn30j1vsz "

CAN YOU HELP? Last term I listed a number of ways that our community might be able to help us save money in these increasingly difficult times.

- 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.

THE SUMMER MENU Please don't forget the meal price has risen to £2.36 per meal. The new menu has been added to our website here – <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/school-meals-menus/>

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/>

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

DIARY DATES HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE SCHOOL WEBSITE. SEE http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/school-diary/			
Monday 23rd	Classes 1 & 2 visit to the Cathedral and Mosque in Gloucester Wildlife / nature Quiz 2:00 at Kingswood Violins begin (and continue on Tuesdays)		
Tuesday 24th	FONNS meeting at school, 7:30		
Wednesday 25th	ALL Year 3 and 4, Tag Rugby festival 1:30 – 3:30 Leadership and Management (Governors Meeting) 7:00		
Friday 27th	High School Open Day – please inform the office if your girls will be visiting		
Saturday 28th	Formula Goblin racing at Renishaw, 8:15 a.m. !		
Monday 30th	Mountain Biking at Archway Teaching and Learning Committee (Governors) 6:30 Bishop's Visitor - annual visit		
Tuesday 1st MAY	1:00 – 3:15 North Nibley Choir Practice		
Thursday 3rd	Multi-Skills Y1 & 2 9:45 – 11:15 at KLB Our Choir perform at the Wotton Music Festival, 6:00 St Mary's Church		
Monday 7th	BANK HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL		
SUMMER 2018 – Pupil days		AUTUMN 2018 – 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 -

- Class Letters
- Christian Values
- Club letter