

Dear Parents and Friends,

FRIDAY – Class 2 taught us all about Columbus. The Class 2 showcase assembly was a big hit and the children spoke with confidence. They looked amazing too, so our thanks go to all who helped to make this happen.



Class 3 & 4 Trip Classes 3 & 4 travelled to Fairford to watch the Royal International Air Tattoo. We saw an amazing Red Arrows display, and similar displays from overseas air forces. My group chose to exit the rear of a Hercules type plane in the style of parachutists, leaping off the ramp with jumpers held over their heads – very funny! We saw Spitfires and Sopwith Camels as well as more modern craft. Everyone agreed we could have stayed even longer, there was so much to see and do. Perhaps next time we should leave at earlier and beat the queues? Thank you to all the adults who supported us.

MONDAY (twice, and TUESDAY too) The AWESOME North Nibley Summer Production, ROCK BOTTOM, thrilled audiences, and each performance was better than the one before. Congratulations go to everyone who worked so hard to make this happen. I know (because so many ex-Nibley pupils visited to see friends and siblings on the stage, and told me) that this does go down as one of the highlights of the year, and sometimes a highlight of the whole Nibley experience! Audience members, do please email your thoughts and praise to the school, we'd love to share your thoughts and perhaps use a few in our school publicity. For example, this was received on Wednesday – "What a fabulous performance of Rock Bottom by the school. The Stone Age rock musical was an inspired choice and was, judging by the passion with which it was delivered, clearly one enjoyed to the full by the children. Their infectious enthusiasm for the production was a brilliant experience to watch and one very much enjoyed by all of us in the audience. You often speak of confidence and self-esteem – this was an outstanding demonstration of both!" You can also view a gallery of photos here - <http://northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/rock-bottom/>



A DVD of the Tuesday night performance is available to order from the school office, at £5.00 each. All profits get carried forward into next year's props and costumes budget, so thank you for supporting this important part of our school's work.

Also on **TUESDAY** elections were held for the posts of Chair and Vice-Chair of next year's School Council. The presentations from the Year 5 candidates were excellent – well thought through and delivered. I honestly wish I could pick and mix from all their ideas (and perhaps I will!) but at the end of the process Ava and Alex were elected. Their manifesto will be quite a challenge to deliver, but we'll do our best!

Over the summer watch out for the occasional Tweet or Facebook message. **DON'T FORGET** your homework!

WEDNESDAY The Year 6 Play Leaders, having rehearsed their sports over preceding weeks, delivered a superb 'games' event for the rest of the school. Our thanks also go to FONNS members who have supported the event with refreshments, as they did at the summer production.

FONNS meeting. At the FONNS meeting on Wednesday night we agreed to book panto tickets at the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham once again. Monday 17th December (the final week) has been booked.

Also at the FONNS meeting the committee were thrilled to declare the profits from this year's Music Festival – in excess of £11,300! This is a staggering achievement, made possible by the active involvement of around HALF our families. Some individuals endured massive sessions 'on duty' and it is hoped that next year even more mums, dads and carers can get involved and help share the load. It is hard work, but definitely worth it because all the children at North Nibley benefit from this work. And it's also FUN! To put this into perspective, ALL the other fundraising activities across the school year added together generate around £4000 for FoNNS activities, so please get involved next year. Because we're worth it!

THURSDAY Non-school uniform day in aid of Rays of Sunshine was a popular initiative from the school council. We had swimmers, Southgates, smart people and shadows, Siri, Snow White, scouts, showgirls and sauce. Songs and silhouettes, skulls, Spidermen, surfers, sunflowers and sleepyheads! Around £168 was raised for this good cause. Thank you for your support.



FRIDAY Reports home. Nearly 1,300 sheets of paper in 115 envelopes, each with a unique mix of information. It is a massive undertaking and I am so grateful to Mrs Kirby for her 'quiet work' behind the scenes.

NIBLEY NIBBLES Thank you to everyone who has supported, whether baking or consuming the delicious morsels offered each week. Well done children, you have done really well.

I have seen **CLASS 1** rehearsing for their assembly. Unfortunately, this letter goes out before they will have completed their time showcasing work and talent, but they look and sound AMAZING! Watch out for photos on the school website sometime this holiday.

CLASS 1 & 2 Trip Classes 1 & 2 went to Cheddar for their joint trip, in support of their topic on Explorers. They explored Goff's Cave and saw stalagmites, stalactites, a human skeleton and evidence of bats. They climbed 274 steps to the top of Jacob's Ladder to appreciate the clifftop view. They also took part in a workshop about the stone age. Both classes received compliments about their knowledge around caves. Thank you to all the adults who supported this trip.



STAFF NEWS Miss Geraldine Breen will be staying with us in Class 1 for the duration of the next school year, so we can continue to benefit from her experience with our youngest pupils. Miss Parker is getting married in the summer break, and we all wish her well. When she returns she has to get used to being called Mrs Lewis!

BAGS Children should be bringing their school books in to school in Book Bags, which are designed to prevent damage to books. Increasingly there is a tendency to use large ruck sacks which are causing us real problems in our corridors.

PENCIL CASES Children are not required to bring pencil cases to school. If they do, however, they should be small and practical. There has been an outbreak of large (and unstable) pencil cases which more closely resemble toys or fashion accessories. Please help us by thinking carefully about the choices children make.

REMINDER: Essential Experiences DEADLINE APPROACHING!

I've been inspired by the new tag-line for the diocese – "Life in all its fullness." What does this mean for a 21st century child, and how does a school promote such an aspiration? Could we, between us, we might come up with a list of 100 essential experiences for Primary aged children? The deadline is 1st September, after which the submitted ideas will be considered in full. The final word, however, will be down to the School Pupil Council. I'm excited to see what they come up with! Make your entry here – <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/essential-experiences/>

From September we aim to be a NUT FREE SCHOOL. This includes all snacks, packed lunches and cooked lunches too. This is a health and safety requirement of the HIGHEST PRIORITY for a school child.



REMINDER: Encouraging a love of reading I would be happy to receive 'selfies' (and similar) of children pictured with their bookshelves! Send photos to newsletter@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk and we'll share a few in Assembly. **Why not** take up our reading challenge or create a book review <http://northnibley.weebly.com/book-reviews>

REMINDER: Can you save the school £100? I would like to replace a number of the 'blown' lightbulbs high up in our Victorian classroom ceilings. Unfortunately, this requires a scaffolding tower. The hire of a tower will set us back around £100 – that's £100 less to spend on resources for the classroom. Can anybody help by making a tower available in the summer holiday please?

REMINDER: MUSICAL YOUTH? We have a few vacancies in Mrs Hale's Woodwind timetable (Flute, clarinet, Saxophone, clarinet and recorder). Do ask if you are interested.

REMINDER: BLUE TESCO TOKENS I have been stock piling my blue Tesco tokens against the possibility that one day they accept our request for support with the planned 'outbreak building'. There is active fundraising happening 'behind the scenes' and Mrs Loveday has been very successful in securing THOUSANDS OF POUNDS for the project, for which we are very grateful.

REMINDER: Polli:Nation Update Our Polli:Nation project has been nominated for National Lottery awards – now it's up to you all please, to help us win! See newsletter below. Its easy to vote...please circulate widely on your networks! **Ways to vote...** Firstly – you can vote on-line. Our special website address is: <http://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/project/pollination-0>

You can also phone in your vote on 0844 836 9686. You can also vote via twitter – including #NLAPolliNation when you vote – or just re-tweet one of the LTL polli tweets and this will count as a vote too! The voting finishes at midnight on 27th July. Please encourage everyone you know to vote, pupils, parents, staff et al! – you can only vote once from one account but no doubt you all have at least two phones, probably more than one email account and maybe even a twitter account, so please you all methods at your disposal. There is no age limit and you can vote from overseas!

REMINDER: Mischief Makers, Summer Reading Challenge in Libraries This year's Summer Reading Challenge is Mischief Makers, celebrating the 80th anniversary of the much-loved comic, Beano. This national literacy intervention helps stop the "dip" in children's reading levels over the summer months. All 39 libraries and the Mobile Library in Gloucestershire will run the Challenge from 14th July until 8th September. Please see the Bulletin Board at the above link for additional information.

DIARY DATES			
Monday	Governor's Strategy Meeting		
Tuesday 24 th	Leaver's Service 9:30 in St. Martin's Church – you are all welcome. Last day of the school year for pupils. FONNS BBQ in the Village Sports Field, 5:00 onwards. Please join us in our traditional last event of the year.		
Tuesday 4 th September	First day back for Years 1 to 6.		
Monday 10 th	Years 3 and 4 attend their first swimming session of the new school year. Please send permissions back before the end of term. If you can top up your ParentPay account in preparation over the summer break it would be appreciated.		
31/10/2018	School photos – individuals and siblings. To be confirmed.		
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 -

- Autumn Term Menus
- Uniform reminder
- Train like a Jedi
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Finally, then, it's time to say "Thank you and goodbye!" to all our leavers and their parents, and to wish you all a relaxing, peaceful and happy summer holiday. **FIRST PUPIL DAY BACK – TUESDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2018**