



Learning, Achievement, Faith & Fun!



NEWSLETTER 240

Friday 21st September 2018

On this day in 1937 J. R. R. Tolkien's 'The Hobbit' is published by George Allen and Unwin.

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Dear Parents and Friends,

WHERE IS THE TIME GOING? Next week our Reception children attempt their first 'full days' and we are fully into the swing of a new school year. We have time for only the most essential updates here today!

SOUTH CERNEY 2018 Our Year 6s were part of a group of 85 'messaging about on the water' in the Tyndale Cluster's annual water-sports day (a tradition which stretches back for over 20 years!) A splashing time was had by all. Everyone took part in two of the four activities on offer – raft building, kayaking, sailing and canoeing. One of the highlights the children look forward to is leaping into the lake at the end, and there are plenty of photos of this on our website. There is a link on the front page.



WINNERS! "Children at North Nibley were delighted to discover that their involvement in a national pollination project had been recognised by winning the prestigious "Best Environment Project" in the 2018 National Lottery Good Causes awards. Our school had been chosen as one of 260 schools to transform our outdoor space into a pollinator-friendly habitat. Supported by environmental and education charity, Learning through Landscapes, the project was up against 700 entrants in this category, beating six other finalists to scoop the winning prize for their youth-led initiative Polli:Nation."

Through our commitment to Polli:Nation, and led by Miss Allen, we have encouraged our pupils to protect pollinating insects, with a dedication to increase the number and diversity of these species around our grounds. As part of the three-year Polli:Nation project, our school is also participating in a UK-wide survey from OPAL Imperial College London. Each year, the school is observing and recording the numbers of pollinator species that visit the grounds, and will compare results before and after the project has been completed. Our findings will help scientists to develop an accurate understanding of the current state of the habitats for Britain's pollinating insects.

FONNS FUNDRAISER - CHRISTMAS CARDS There is a pack coming home today which includes full instructions for the creation of Christmas cards. Your cards MUST be back in school by Thursday 4th OCTOBER – no exceptions!

BOOK FAIR we are hosting a book fair in October. A flyer giving details was sent home this week. This is a good opportunity to explore current popular titles with your children (and perhaps make preparations for December 25th?)

HEAD TEACHER DROP-IN Today just one parent (and a pre-schooler) attended. As a result of our conversation, however, I have a number of questions I would like to explore through our annual parent questionnaire. Were you aware, we have a 'Bright Ideas' box by the front door. Do feel free to share your thoughts.



ROCK BOTTOM A DVD of our summer musical is available from the school office, at £5.00 each, if you placed an order in July. 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. You can also view a gallery of photos here - <http://northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/rock-bottom/>

STAFF NEWS Mrs Boles has kindly agreed to teach woodwind lessons for the Autumn Term.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT Class Letters and Topic Plans have been sent home this week. Copies have been added to the website (under 'Learning → Curriculum') and you can also find 'example' timetables there. The timetables are not straightjackets but could be used to give you a prompt when asking "What did you learn at school today?" Never accept the answer 'Nothing much!'

PARENT MEETING – SHARING EXPECTATIONS. Please return your slips to the office to indicate your intention to attend our special meetings. Wednesday 26th September: Class 1: 6:30 – 7:00 , Class 2: 7:00 – 7:30 (concluded in time for FONNS AGM) & Thursday 27th September: Class 3: 6:00 – 6:30 , Class 4: 6:30 – 7:00

THE FRIENDS OF NORTH NIBLEY SCHOOL (FONNS) hold their first meeting of the year at 7:30 p.m on 26th September. in the staffroom. Please join us if you can. This meeting follows straight after the parent meeting in Class 2.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING Class 4 will be hosting a coffee morning for ALL members of our community (so why not invite a neighbour?) in order to raise funds for people affected by cancer. Join us in the school hall, 9:30 – 11:30.

FAMILY PHOTOS We take it in turns with North Nibley Pre-School to organise family photos. This year the pre-school have organised the event, which will take place on Saturday 13th October, 9:00 – 12:00, in our school hall. **PLEASE NOTE** this is an update of the event announced for later in October. School will not be organising individual photos in school uniform this term, and we encourage you to use the pre-school event if you are keen to have a photo of this type. You might even want to bring a change of clothing with you?

REMINDER: We need 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.



PLEASE HELP We have some wild mushrooms growing in our grounds. Please reinforce the message that children should not pick or eat anything that looks like a mushroom.

FRIENDSHIP IS OUR CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS: From Paul's letter to the Philippians (2, verse 3)
 "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."



WELCOME SERVICE FOR RECEPTION. As has been our way for the last 4 years, we will hold a special 'moment' in our Friday Worship time (on Friday 5th October) when we fully welcome Reception into our school community. Each child is invited to bring a small stone or pebble, as unique as they are, for adding to our plate. We will also celebrate the birthdays of those who have turned 5 since 1st September.

P.E. KIT Please make sure every child has a P.E. kit in school every Weds, Thurs and Fri (ideally ALL WEEK if possible!)

FRIDAY ASSEMBLIES This year sees a return of 'Certificates earned elsewhere' and children are invited to bring in cups, rosettes, belts and badges achieved outside of school on the FINAL 'SCHOOL' FRIDAY of each calendar month, so the next opportunity is FRIDAY 28th OCTOBER – next week! Assemblies start as close to 2:40 as we can manage - please join us.

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'.

HOLIDAY DIARIES The staff and I have been fascinated by the diaries we have read so far. Obviously it takes time to read them all, but there will be a personal response to each child in due course. Thank you to the parents who have supported this drive to ensure that standards do not slip over the summer break.

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

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES Advance notice that we shall be supporting this charity once again.

DIARY DATES			
Monday 24 th	Year 6 (Group 1) serve a community lunch in the village hall		
Weds 26 th	FONNS AGM, 7:30 p.m. School staff room.		
Friday 28 th	MacMillan Coffee Morning – Class 4 are preparing something special, 9:30 – 11:30. Watch this space! Special guest in assembly. Starting early – more details to follow.		
Weds 3 rd OCT	Arrival of the BOOK FAIR (for approx. 1 week). Details in book bags.		
Friday 5 th	Welcome assembly for Reception – a more formal moment marking their arrival. Each needs a small stone.		
Sat 6 th	First Cross-country race of the year, KLB 9:30 for 10:00		
Mon 8 th	Y6 Cycle training begins (All week). Parents' Evening. Details to follow.		
Tues 9 th	Parents' Evening. Details to follow.		
Tues 16 th	Harvest Service, St. Martin's Church, 2:15. All welcome. Details to follow.		
Fri 19 th	Class 4 Showcase Assembly – a window into the learning taking place in Autumn Term 1. LAST DAY OF TERM.		
AUTUMN 2018 – Pupil days		NSPRING 2019 – Pupil days	
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 1 04/09/2019 – 25/10/2019
Term 2 30/10/2018 – 20/12/2018	Term 4 25/02/2019 – 05/04/2019	Term 6 03/06/2019 – 19/07/2019	Term 2 04/10/2019 – 20/12/2019



The Virtual Bookbag <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/virtual-bookbag/> is updated late on Friday. In it this week -

- Book Fair flyer
- Family photo flyer
- CLASS LETTERS AND TOPIC PLANS
- Aspirations Letter