

Dear Parents and Friends,



IT'S THE BEST DAY EVER! That's what some of our children from Class 2 were heard saying when the fire engine visited the school on Wednesday. Class 1 also shared their thoughts. Luke said "The fire engine made a nee norr noise". Sophia said "I put the helmet on." Billy liked using the hose pipe and Cameron liked it when "the hose was squirting the teacher's cars like a car wash!" Miss Tyers liked putting the uniform on too! **Why not share your thoughts about our rich curriculum in our Parent Survey?**

SURVEY Once each year we launch a BIG SURVEY to find out your thoughts about how we might improve what we do, to the benefit of the children we serve. This year is no different and we invite you to participate by following the link from our survey page - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/parent-surveys/>

Among many traditional 'favourite' questions that help us spot trends over time, there are several new sections and emerging 'hot potatoes'. This year we are asking about:

The School Vision	Wrap-around Care	The School's Website
The work of our Governors	Our charity work	Online learning
Homework	Parents' meetings	SIAMS (Inspection)
Reading at home	End-of-Year Reports	Enrichment Activities & Clubs
Writing Magazine	Our Newsletters	Summary Questions

The answers you give will help us to set priorities and provide better services next year. Your answers to our SIAMS questions will be especially beneficial as we prepare for our SIAMS inspection. What's SIAMS, you might be asking? The answers lie in our....

GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER. Once per term the governors put together a newsletter of their own. In this issue: Meet a new governor, find out about SIAMS and discover unexpected outcomes from our Pollination Project.

NATIVITY The children in Classes 1 & 2 report that very few parents have helped them with the lines sent home for learning for the Nativity (in one of the classes only 4 hands went up!) Please help them to become familiar with these and if possible encourage some expression in their delivery.

FRIENDSHIP IS OUR CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS:

"The righteous choose their friends carefully, but the way of the wicked leads them astray." (Proverbs 12:26 New International Version)

WHOOPS! There have been several instances of parents using the wrong media 'channels' to share important information about pupil health and well-being. All messages must be sent to admin@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk since these will ALWAYS be picked up. We do not intend to use Class Dojo, nor the Head Teacher account as a channel for reporting absence.

DOJO POINTS / MONSTER POINTS It would appear that some parents have not completed the final step in their account set up (we can't tell who!) but if you installed the app and have yet to get an update, please ask around and share the knowledge!

SPORTS CLUB – There will be no further Sports Clubs this term. We look forward to starting up again after Christmas.

MUSIC Thank you for your prompt payments for music tuition. Everyone is now sorted! Mrs Boles has kindly agreed to continue with tuition in Mrs Hale's absence after prolonged illness. Mrs Hale is recovering and wishes everyone well.

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

WEDNESDAY 5TH DECEMBER.



Each year we invite Year 7 pupils back to school, to share a mince pie and collect some valuable feedback about their time here, and how well we have prepared them for secondary school. This year we would like to see them on Wednesday 5th December, from after school until 5:00 pm. Do please spread the word!

FRIDAY 7TH DECEMBER

Experience Christmas – with a team from St. Martins Church.
Nativity Dress Rehearsal, 1:30

MONDAY 10TH DECEMBER

Classes 1 & 2 Christmas Nativity – starting at 2 p.m.
The post box will be in operation from this date and Class 4 'elves' will be delivering the contents soon after. ALL cards must go through the post box, since this eases several difficulties that can occur in the playground and classes.
ALSO Deadline for 'Christmas Bowls' in preparation for the FONNS Christmas Fayre.

TUESDAY 11TH DECEMBER

Classes 1 & 2 Nativity – children MUST be at school at 5.30 p.m. for a 6:00 p.m. start.

FRIDAY 14TH DECEMBER

FONNS Christmas Fayre, in school from 5 p.m. – 7:00pm NO MORE REGULAR CLUBS AFTER TODAY.

MONDAY 17TH DECEMBER

We are attending a morning performance of Aladdin in Cheltenham and NEED TO LEAVE AT 8:45 WITHOUT EXCEPTION (Oh yes we do!). Thank you, FONNS for this amazing treat! **All children will need to bring a packed lunch.**

ALSO
Carol Service at St. Martin's Church, North Nibley, from 6:30pm. This joyous celebration is open to all our community. ALL children from Classes 3 & 4 are expected, children from Classes 1 & 2 are asked to sit in a class group under their own teacher's supervision. All children in school uniform please, though festive 'enhancements' are allowed/encouraged!

WEDNESDAY 19TH DECEMBER

Christmas Lunch. Staff will serve the children. Silly hats will be worn! Pre-order letters in book bags today.

THURSDAY 20TH DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY DON'T FORGET YOUR CHRISTMAS JUMPERS!

We ask that the following is donated for our parties –

- Class 1 – Fruit (Satsuma, grapes etc)
- Class 2 – Small cakes or chocolate biscuits
- Class 3 – Pizza (small pieces) or sausages or cheese
- Class 4 – Bags of crisps or small savoury snacks.

School will provide sandwiches and the children will play party games in the afternoon.
PLEASE ONLY PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FOR ONE DAY. SURPLUS PACKAGED FOOD WILL BE TAKEN TO A FOOD BANK.

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 child at our school. Thank you. This is the last day of school this term (and year) for pupils. There will be no cooked dinners provided. School will close at 3.15pm normal time.



DIARY DATES

Monday 3 rd Dec	Village Hall Lunch (a packed lunch is required for the Year 6 group giving service) Governors - Finance & Premises, 6:30pm		
Tuesday 4 th	Cluster Heads Meeting in the afternoon		
Wednesday 5 th	Two staff on First Aid training		
Monday 10 th	Joint Tyndale Cluster Staff Meeting at North Nibley		
Thursday 13 th	Governors – Leadership & Management Committee		
AUTUMN 2018 – Pupil days	SPRING 2019 – Pupil days	SUMMER 2019 – Pupil days	NEXT AUTUMN 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 -

- Mother Goose leaflet • Governors Newsletter

Wotton-under-Edge
Dramatic Society



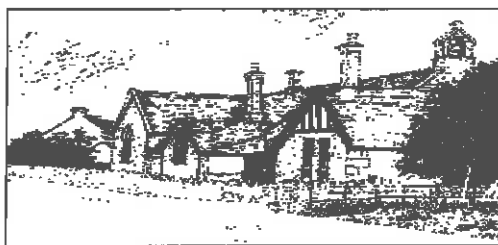
Proudly presents



Wotton-under-Edge
Town Hall

4th-12th January 2019

www.wottondrama.co.uk



Here is the first governors' newsletter this school year to update you on our activities. Rest assured we have not been idle. In addition to our regular involvement in the school's life through the various committees which meet twice a term, there are lots of other ways we get involved. We make formal visits to see teaching in action, we talk to students about initiatives and projects they have been involved in. Currently the governors are immersed in preparing for an inspection anticipated late in the spring term. You can read more about this here. If you would like to talk to a governor either let the school office know or catch one of us at the school gate. We are here for the school community.

*Sue Bradley-Jones (Chair)
Peter Hall (Vice-Chair)
Julie Collins
Emma Frith
Ned Hussain
Chris Huxley-Reynard
Mary Blogg
Jude Saunderson
Fiona Yarrow
Charlotte Parker
Abbie Lewis (Staff Member)
Paul Batchelor (Head Teacher)
(TWO VACANCIES)*

NORTH NIBLEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

The latest in our 'know your governors' series!

Mary Blogg is a newly appointed foundation governor in September 2018. Here she tells a bit about herself:

I have been working in the Higher Education sector for about 17 years and still thoroughly enjoy it. The vibrancy that the students bring and the range of things that I continually learn from my academic colleagues makes for a fascinating environment to work in. I work in an administrative capacity at the University of Bristol and have had a number of roles from a Student Administration Manager (handling things like Exam Processes, Student Welfare and Health and Safety) to Marketing Officer. I have also been a Project Officer working on a widening participation project where the primary objective was to encourage students from different parental backgrounds, that would not normally progress to higher education, study science subjects.



I currently have a daughter at the school and since she started I have gone into the school on a weekly basis to hear the children read. This is a fantastic way of getting to know both the school and the children in it, and it is so rewarding watching the children progress. Whenever I am not running a taxi service, working or being a mum, I like to keep fit and have some social time with friends.

I have joined the Teaching and Learning Committee of the governors; I feel as though this is really where I may be able to contribute the most and an area I am most interested in. As a new governor I have huge amounts to learn. One of the first things that has been brought to my attention is that the school will be going through a Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) this year. (More about this below.)

Dr Charlotte Parker who has also joined the Governors this term as a parent governor and will be integral in representing the parent view to the governors.

SIAMS

Did you know that under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 all Church of England and Methodist schools have an additional inspection, the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS), as well as Ofsted? We had our last SIAMS inspection in May 2014.

What does this mean for the School?

It is likely that in late spring or the summer of 2019 the school will undergo an inspection. The key question that the inspectors will be asking is; "How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?" Our vision of, Learning, Achievement, Faith and Fun really does need to be espoused right through to the everyday things the school does.

Making our vision come to life

The governors have begun to seek evidence of how our vision is realised in the everyday practice of the staff, students, parents and the governors themselves. We find it in the Friday School Assemblies when we come together as a community with parents. At that assembly, we recognise that the Open the Book team ask the children to enact scenes from the bible and a song is chosen to underline the message of the week. We also find physical evidence of our Christian values placed around the school with the banners in the entrance hall, and the Christian pictures in the hall. Prior to every meeting the governors have, a prayer is said, to remind them of the work that is about to be done and the importance of it. Our school community contributes positively and generously to society, through the various charitable events that are run. The governors have just begun the process of iterating these practices that the school naturally does. Can you think of any other examples? It is truly fascinating understanding how the School's vision drives everything to the greater benefit of its community and we are sure that the challenge for passing the SIAMS inspection will be to make all of the things we naturally do, explicit!

Pollination Award



The school was chosen as one of 260 schools nationally to transform their outdoor space into a pollinator-friendly habitat. The results of the children's hard work can be seen by the sides of the playground. The project has encouraged our children to protect pollinating insects, with a dedication to increase the number and diversity of these species. Some of the obvious benefits include:

- Improving the environment
- Tidying up a piece of untended ground
- Teaching the children all about planting things and learning about insects, bugs and plants.

On speaking to some of the children who participated in the project some not so obvious benefits emerged; one persuaded her Nan to come to pollinators to help, another has begun to enjoy gardening at home and a third noticed how an apple tree is beginning to grow at home after dropping some seeds.

The children were very grateful for the help of Mrs Meyer who showed them beetles, earthworms, wasps and butterflies. A huge thank you also goes to Miss Allen for overseeing such a successful project. The children were all sad when the project came to an end but very much enjoyed the feast to celebrate the successful completion of the project. It is hoped that next spring the school will be observing and recording the number of pollinator insects to see if they have increased as a result of the work. The results of the observations will be fed back to a UK wide survey conducted by Imperial College.

Write Stuff

The Governors would like to praise Mr Batchelor, the Teachers and Teaching Assistants for the initiative of celebrating the children's writing through the Write Stuff Magazine. There is certainly a buzz around the school on publication date and it is truly wonderful to see parents and children talking about published works!

Whilst we are talking of writing; Ms Surrige read out some extremely emotional Remembrance day poems that Years 5 and 6 had written. The quality of the writing was so powerful. Progress is truly being made in this area.

And Finally.....

Parents, please, please continue to provide the School and Governors with your views and inputs. Contribute to the school surveys, talk to the teachers or Mr Batchelor or speak to a governor. Your feedback helps shape the school into what it is today.

Children's Christmas Lunch at North Nibley C of E School

Wednesday 19th December 2018

Roast Turkey with Chipolata Sausage
with Sage & Onion Stuffing & Gravy
or
Cheese, Spinach and Cranberry Roulade



Herby Roast Potatoes
Glazed Carrots
Garden Pea Medley

Christmas biscuits
or
Iced Sponge



Please return this slip to school before Monday 10th December 2018

Name Class

Please tick one of the dinner options and one of the dessert options below

Turkey Dinner or Roulade

Or a packed lunch

Dessert :

Christmas Biscuit or Iced sponge