



Learning. Achievement. Faith & Fun!



NEWSLETTER 246

Friday 14th December 2018

On this day in 1903 The Wright brothers attempt to fly the Wright Flyer for the first time.

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Dear Parents and Friends,



■ Class One at North Nibley Primary School.

RECEPTION 2018 This delightful photo has appeared in the Wotton Times. We hope that the Dursley Gazette photo will soon follow!

TERM DATES Updated term dates for 2019-2020 can be found here - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/term-dates/>

SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS Newsletters from Spring and Summer 2015 will be removed from the website this Christmas break. Last chance to download and keep!

BROWN 'ASHMA' INHALORS Recent staff First Aid training confirmed that these are NOT required in school. They are preventative they are no help in an emergency.



Classes 1 & 2 - 'Born In A Barn' Nativity. Well done to everyone for learning your words, songs and movements so well. It was a real Christmassy treat for us all!

MORE PRAISE! A bit late, but I found this by accident on Google! "Today, with my business Immersive Theatres, I delivered a 5m digital planetarium experience to 45 Reception, Year 1 and 2 pupils at North Nibley CofE Aided School. I was warmly welcomed by the staff and found the large classroom prepared just as I had requested. The morning was well organised with all groups arriving on time. The excited but well-behaved students enjoyed a rich selection of content: peering up at the planetarium night sky, visiting the International Space Station, handling a famous meteorite and learning about space shapes, the colours of stars and the planets & other objects making up the Solar System. Thank you North Nibley Primary for a very pleasant visit." Well done, those children!

STAFFING NEWS Mrs Shephard (Shephard 'with an A') has been in touch and she thanks everyone for their warm messages of support. She writes "We will be having a very simple funeral for Isaiah in the next few weeks and we would prefer not to have any flowers. Instead, we have set up a Precious Star fund in memory of Isaiah to support the work of the charity Bliss and the Southmead NICU who are both incredible organisations and we cannot thank them enough. There is definitely no expectation to give to this fund but we wanted to set up something positive that will hopefully help future babies and families. The fund will be open indefinitely so if people wish to pay their respects this is what we are guiding them to including our families. Here's the link <https://isaiah-shephard.muchloved.com/>



WISE MEN SEEK JESUS!

The school were entertained by a retelling of the Nativity story on Tuesday afternoon, which featured a group of wise men, complete with apprentice, who followed a star on a stick! Two other 'stars' were at work behind the scenes, lending a hand and working the puppets alongside our visiting team. We all had a good laugh!



NUTTY HERO! One of our Year 6 was quick to alert staff when she spotted another child 'being kind' and giving a sweet, which had been found in a pocket, to a child in Reception. Lara knew that the sweet (Snickers) contained nuts and should not be on site. Obviously this was an accident, and no one has been told off, but please remain vigilant, especially as we head into this season of Christmas, when festive food and 'nibbles' are more common. Well done Lara!

LARA AND ELLA WROTE THE STORY IN THEIR OWN WORDS!

"Last Tuesday, an innocent reception accidentally came across some peanuts in a Snickers bar. It's said that a girl in year 3 gave the chocolate bar to the 4-year-old boy without realising the ingredients or the danger. Since another child in Reception is severely allergic to peanuts this could've ended in a serious medical problem. But luckily this was prevented by a child in year six who noticed that something was wrong when she saw the boy with a snickers wrapper. This is another warning not to bring nuts to school. We do have some other pupils in the school allergic to nuts and this could have effected them too. We do advise that after eating nuts at home you wash your hands thoroughly, brush your teeth and have a drink. Please, please, please do not bring any thing that may contain nuts to school."

DOG TRUST Our current School Council Chair was elected on a manifesto to include more about animals in our curriculum! To that end, we invited the Dogs Trust to talk to Classes 3 and 4. Here is a report from Charlotte and Sophie.

"On Wednesday morning, Class 4 had a visit from Charlotte, part of the Dogs Trust community, to talk about evolution and dogs. We were all given quizzes about the different breeds and played fun games about what they need to keep healthy and fit. The quizzes included questions for example; "What were grey hounds originally used for?" The answer was chasing or hunting hare and deer; another was what question was falsely understood about huskies? The answer was that they were not half wolf and were originally used to pull sleds. We learnt that Border Collies are the most common breed in Dogs Trust and are the most intelligent and have a lot of stamina. We also learnt to remember '**Before you get a dog, make sure you research what it needs**'."

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's newsletter, sent the week before last and accessible in our 'Virtual BookBag'.

POLICY UPDATE The following policies and documents can be found on our 'Policy Page', at the bottom, <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/policies-1/> in the section "DRAFT POLICIES FOR CONSULTATION":

- Home-School Expectations 2019)
- Collective Worship Nov 2018)- Your comments on all three are invited.
- Religious Education Nov 2018 DRAFT)

FRIENDSHIP IS OUR CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS:

'Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.' (The Bible, Philippians 2:4)

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.

REMINDER We are still collecting stamps for www.cry.org.uk The price raised by each stamp has just gone up!

FOOTBALL On Tuesday the boys football team went to Oxstalls in Gloucester to play in the County Football Final, having won through from the District competition earlier. "It was very challenging. We were playing experienced teams with good players." "We won our group and went into the semi-finals. This was very tense and ended up in a penalty shoot-out. We won that and got through to the finals (playing a team from our group stage)." "We managed to play well all through the match but it was a draw, so it came down to a 'Golden Goal'. Our goalie was amazing!" "In extra time the others scored, so we were runners up." A great achievement for North Nibley. Thank you to Mrs Dixon, Mrs Dickson, Mrs Bates and Ms Phillips.



PREMISES PLAN Governors would like to invite you to a meeting about our plans for the premises of the school, and specifically the planned 'breakout' building. This meeting will take place on Tuesday 15th January, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. in the school hall.

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

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!

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.



DIARY DATES

Thursday 20 th	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.
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2019

Monday 7 th JAN	FIRST DAY BACK FOR PUPILS. FIRST SWIM FOR YEARS 1 & 2 (No after-school clubs this week)
Tuesday 15 th	CLOSING DAY FOR RECEPTION PLACES, SEPTEMBER 2019 Governor meeting for Parents re school premises, 7:30 p.m. in the school hall.
Thursday 17 th	Reading and Writing evening for parents of children in Reception AND Year 1 (plus other interested parents) Time to be confirmed.
Monday 21 st	Village Hall Monday Lunch – Year 6 group to serve. Packed lunch required.
Weds 30 th	Governor's Leadership and Management Committee Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
SATURDAY 2 nd FEB	Cross Country – Race 4 at KLB. 9:30 a.m. for 10:00!

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 -

- Proposed breakout space letter
- Superstars Newsletter

NORTH NIBLEY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

PROPOSED BREAKOUT SPACE

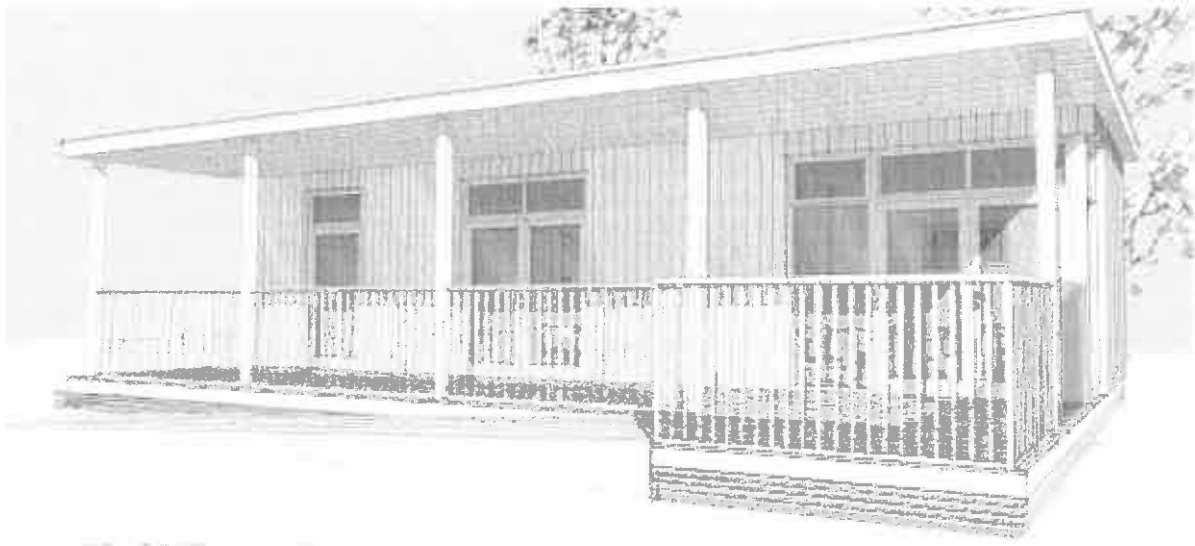
GOVERNORS' UPDATE, DECEMBER 2018

We are excited to report on the recent addition to the gate; a Planning Application Notice.

This is the culmination of over a year of Governors' and School's input in to looking at the opportunities to increase available space for learning to benefit all the children and staff at North Nibley.

During this time, the Governors and the School have consulted staff, children and experts to try and meet the current and future needs of North Nibley Primary School.

We would like to erect a 42 sq m timber framed cedar clad Learning Escape building by T G Escapes, subject to planning permission and funding.

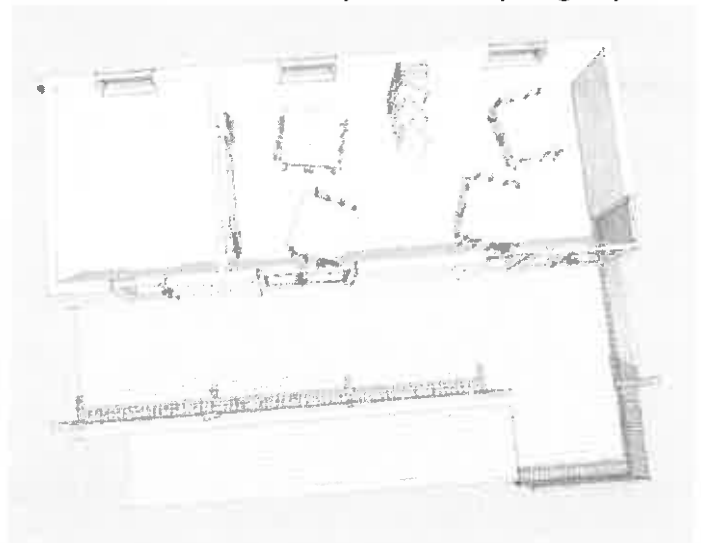


Many of you will already be aware that the school has old buildings. These buildings are held in Trust by the Diocese and the Governors are responsible for raising funds to maintain the buildings and grounds in good repair. In recent years, this has involved carrying out significant repairs to the chimney and providing upgraded playground facilities to which FONNS also made a significant contribution.

By modern standards, the buildings provide very limited and inflexible space for teaching. Children who require additional support often sit in corridors and due to the mixed year classes, year groups move between the hall and staffroom, which is not ideal. It is anticipated that this proposed breakout space will provide the children with a quiet, modern, spacious and light environment conducive to learning.

We are proposing that the majority of the building will be fitted out to provide additional teaching space, which can be subdivided with a folding and acoustic rated partition wall to be able to utilise the area for more than one group/one to one session at a time.

The balance of the space will provide secure and weather tight storage.



We could not have got this far without the support of others:

Bryan Simpson has given up his time to complete trial pits, soil analyses and to look at levels to establish the suitability of the proposed site next to the staffroom.

It comes as no surprise that ideas like this come at a cost; in this case circa £100,000. Governors are looking to commit much of the funding from investments, which have been held for many years. A significant amount of this is ring-fenced and we are hopeful it will be released to fund this project. However, this won't be enough and fundraising for the remainder of the capital is being led by parent, Emily Loveday, who has done an amazing job by raising in excess of £17,000 through applications for grant funding from various local organisations and charitable funds. It is Emily's intention to apply for further grants when planning permission is obtained.



We would like to hold an open meeting on Tuesday 15th January, starting at 7:30p.m. in the School hall, to provide further information on these proposals and answer any questions. FONNS would also like to use this opportunity to explore how parents might support with the additional fundraising required to

make this priority a reality. We hope that you will be able to attend.

In the meantime, please do make any of the Governors or Emily aware of organisations, Charitable Trusts and/or opportunities to which we could make an application for grant(s). Your help, as ever, would be appreciated!

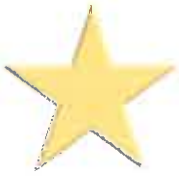
In the meantime, you can keep up to date with the planning application using the following link:

<https://publicaccess.stroud.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=PIYM7LPNIEZ00>

Yours sincerely,

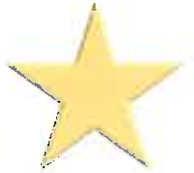
Finance & Premises Committee

On behalf of the Governors of North Nibley Primary School



SUPERSTARS ACTIVITY CLUB NEWSLETTER

December 2018



As myself and Deb are fast approaching the end of our first full term here at Superstars we would like to say a big thank-you to all teachers, helpers and parents who have supported us during the changes.

For those of you who haven't yet used Superstars I would like to give a brief introduction as to who we are. My name is Debbie Harvey, I am the Manager and I am Level 2 trained in Children's Activities and Leadership and am now studying for my Level 3. Deb Wilson is Deputy Manager and has a level 3 Diploma in Childcare. We both have a number of years experience in working with children and between us we are trained in Safeguarding, First Aid and Food Hygiene.

Whilst at Superstars we take the children's safety and wellbeing very seriously providing a relaxed and happy environment which the children are keen to attend. We aim to provide the children with access to a variety of sporting activities both indoors and outdoors such as badminton, boxercise, table tennis, volleyball plus a range of team games and also to a variety of craft and cooking activities.



We provide both breakfast and an afternoon snack. The changes we have made to our breakfast selection have been healthier and now include hot food such as porridge, scrambled eggs as well as the usual toast, crumpets, cereal and fresh fruit. As we have access to ovens our afternoon snack has become more varied and now includes pasta, beans/spaghetti and as a treat hotdogs. All afternoon snacks include a healthy range of salad and fruit.



We would like to clarify to all parents that if you use Superstars on an adhoc basis then we do not require the £50 deposit, this is only needed for regular users so please feel free to register your child with Superstars for those unexpected times that you may need us.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Debbie and Deb

