



Learning, Achievement, Faith & Fun!



NEWSLETTER 256

Friday 22nd March 2019

On this day in 2010 France edges England, 12-10 at Stade de France, Saint Denis to complete a Grand Slam and win the Six Nations Rugby Championship; France's 17th title.

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Dear Parents and Friends,

Nibbley

All C of E Schools in the Dioceses of Gloucestershire are being visited by a life-sized sheep, in order to illustrate the understanding of God as a 'Good Shepherd', and our turn has come. So far, Nibbley - as named by Class 4 - has attended Worship, been spotted in the playground and will hopefully be on hand to support our village clean up on Friday. (Those visiting on Friday might have wondered about the theme - we anticipated the arrival last week but the sheep was delayed). Children are writing diary entries and finding other ways of noting the visit. Before she leaves, we are to add an image to represent our school and vision. Year 6 will be reunited with Nibbley at the Year 6 Leaver's Service in the cathedral in June.



COMIC RELIEF / RED NOSE DAY Amazing - just over £200 was raised by the children last week, meaning that the school has bought the equivalent of 81 mosquito nets. The Talent show was amazing, with jokes, dances, instrument playing, singing, gymnastics and nursery rhymes, proving that North Nibley DOES have talent! **CONGRATULATIONS** The new 'Nature Quiz' team successfully came through the first round of this annual competition involving just under 100 schools in the county. Our thanks go to Mrs Lampard and Ms Murphy who are working with the team, including reserves.

STRANGER DANGER Following a safeguarding alert in the Stroud area, please ensure that children are alert to the dangers of motorists slowing down and 'asking for directions'.

GOVERNOR NEWS Hopefully parents are responding positively to the new emphasis being given to the work of Governors, since parents expressed uncertainty in December's Parent Survey. Following due process we are pleased to publish the minutes of January's Full Governing Board meeting (these are the finalised minutes, as agreed at the next meeting - hence the delay). You can find these here - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/governor-minutes/>

READING IN CLASS Also from the Parent Survey, a number expressed a willingness to read in school on a morning, before school started. To date uptake of this opportunity has been limited - often just 1 parent & child pair. If there are barriers to increasing the update, please let us know how we can help.

THE HEADLINES SAY IT ALL - As a staff we are united in our belief that there is nothing more important, in learning terms, than your daily read (or read and review) with your child - whatever their age. "Readers are made on the laps of their parents." Familiarity with words, the use of complex sentences and encounters with new ideas unlock everything else.

POLICY UPDATE Following the Governor's meeting last term, the staff have reviewed the school's Homework Policy and a draft is currently being considered for adoption. You can find this here - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/policies-1/> and you are invited to comment as part of the consultation. Among the changes are improved guidance about the time you spend per task. "The choice to work beyond the recommended time is entirely at a parent's discretion." We also include ideas which can take you further if you wish. On the same page you can find the annual Special Needs Policy, updated for 2019.

FORGIVENESS IS THIS TERM'S CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS. From the Bible's book of Ephesians, Chapter 4: "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

SCHOOL VALUES IN ACTION By the time you read this we will have participated in the Village Clean Up 'Day' - though our shift will have been in school hours on Friday 22nd March. The Parish Council has supplied litter-pickers and we committed to tidying the playing fields, Lower House Lane and - change of plan - the lower portion of the track up to the monument. The value is SERVICE. More on this next week.



WORK DAY I am hoping that a good number of parents and friends can be found to help with a 'school site/work day'. I can't recall the last time I held one of these, but essentially there are a large number of small jobs, both inside and out, that require doing to maintain our school's attractiveness.

Can you weed a flower bed? Can you paint a wall?
 Can you drill a hole? Can you flush a drain?

These and many other jobs are waiting and I thought it might be fun if we all worked together. We can offer soup and rolls, and the satisfaction of knowing you are helping a worthwhile cause.

And of course, every penny saved on contractors means more can be spent on teaching and learning for your children. Yes, the budget IS that tight! The date is likely to be a Saturday in June - watch this space!

MANY THANKS go to the husband of Mrs Harvey who has repaired our benches - they look fabulous!



IMPROVING PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

Following our Parent Evening promotion, the classes can boast the following proportions of parents ready to receive photos of their children at work, as well as the latest team point information!

Class 1 - 68% Class 2 - 89%
 Class 3 - 94% (up 3%) Class 4 - 38% (up 13%)

Which class will get to 100% first? If you haven't signed up yet, please do. The staff and School Council will be looking again at Team Points and how they might engender greater motivation in the very near future. Something a little more tangible might inspire the children of Class 4!

CAN I REMIND YOU that all 'electronic messages' regarding attendance, homeworks, behaviour etc should still arrive via the admin@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk email address. Messages concerning money should be sent to finance@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk Teachers will not be using ClassDojo to read urgent messages, though we may still choose to send out messages this way when required. Thank you.

'NIBLEY GREEN' - Towards a greener school. Many of you have responded positively to our intentions to promote a better understanding of environmentally friendly issues, and to take action as a school to ensure that our children - and their children - enjoy a better world. So I'm adding a section to the newsletter of practical tips and ideas you may want to think about at home. Discuss these with your children too! Thanks to a few kind donations, including parents and 'Freecycle', we now have two large wheelie-bins which the public - including yourselves - can use to drop off empty crisp packets and clean, dry pet food pouches. Full details can be found on the school's front door and on the bins themselves. Two new bins in the playground, and some signs made at home by Jude, remind children to recycle their crisp packets. As a bonus, we'll get paid for the volume of waste packaging we recycle - good for the planet and good for your children! Please share this information with family and friends. (Remember - no nut products, including packaging - are allowed on site).



DIARY DATES	
Friday 22nd	Village Tidy - See above. SARA lifeboat - pupil talk.
Monday 25th	Governors - Teaching and Learning Committee, 6:30
Tuesday 26th	Rotary Quiz 6:30, Blue Coat School.
Weds 27th	Panathlon Challenge, KLB. Chance-to-Shine cricket continues. High 5 Netball Finals - NO SPORTS CLUB.
Friday 29th	Class 3 'Showcase' assembly.
Tues 2nd APRIL	Finance & Premises Meeting - new Budget. COUNTY FINALS! Netball and Hockey.
Thurs 4th	Woodwind - a new block of lessons begin.
Friday 5th	Last day for our student teachers. Last day of Term 4.
TUESDAY 23rd	FIRST DAY of Term 5.

SPRING 2019 - Pupil days	SUMMER 2019 - Pupil days	NEXT AUTUMN 2019 - Pupil days	NEXT SPRING 2020 - Pupil days
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 3 06/01/2020 - 14/02/2020
Term 4 25/02/2019 - 05/04/2019	Term 6 03/06/2019 - 19/07/2019	Term 2 04/10/2019 - 20/12/2019	Term 4 24/02/2020 - 03/04/2020



FONNS

FUNdraising for North Nibley LEFT Primary School

Spring Fair



Sunday 19th May

Jubilee Field

(Next to the school)

12noon-3pm

Volunteers required helping

On stalls – Please speak to

Mel Holland or Beck Price.

As little as a few hours on

One of the stands will make

The event happen.

Many thanks for your

Support