



NEWSLETTER 257

Friday 29th March 2019

On this day in 1961, after a 4½ year trial, Nelson Mandela is acquitted of treason in Pretoria.

North Nibley Church of England Primary School, The Street, North Nibley, Glos. GL11 6DL
Tel: 01453 542600
www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk
admin@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk
finance@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk
Twitter: @NibleySchool
Head Teacher: Paul Batchelor

Dear Parents and Friends,

On The Ball! Our General Knowledge team were poised and ready on Tuesday night to take on the might of other local schools in the Rotary Club's annual General Knowledge Quiz. The hall was packed, with 7 schools taking part this year. Parents, siblings and school staff members were offered the opportunity to join in the fun with duplicate answer sheets. Round 1 questions required knowledge of animals, flags, vegetables, the royal family and collective nouns. After 3 rounds of ten questions each we were equal first, having only dropped one point. After 5 rounds we were equal second, just one point behind the leaders, it was very close. At the end we came a respectable 4th, some tricky questions in the last round making all the difference. One said "I really enjoyed the experience." Another said "The prizes were Easter eggs - different sizes for first, second and third places, but everyone got a cream egg." My favourite questions was "How many balls are there on a snooker table at the start of a match?" Answer next week! Well done Team Nibley! We are proud of you.



Further Adventures of Nibley, the Diocesan Sheep.

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'. The theme of 'taking care of one another' was further reinforced with a visit from the SARA, the Severn Area Rescue Association (a specialist marine and land search rescue service for Gloucestershire, Hereford & Worcestershire, and Gwent.) The children enjoyed finding out about safety around water, and Nibley enjoyed her ride on the boat!



VILLAGE TIDY

The children (and Nibley the sheep) had a grand time on Friday supporting the annual Village Tidy day. The field, car park, school grounds and lanes were cleared of rubbish using kit which we had arranged to borrow. Children wore their high-viz jackets and armed with litter-pickers and sacks they removed as much rubbish as they could. What were we hoping the children would learn?

- 1) The importance of being responsible (and safe) with rubbish
- 2) The importance of partnership - working together
- 3) Respect for the environment
- 4) The importance of service to a community.

The involvement of the school in this year's Tidy day was very much appreciated by the Parish Council. Our thanks go to all those who supported us too.



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

In the last week Full Governors, and then the Teaching and Learning Committee met to consider, amongst other items, staffing, the progress of the School Improvement Plan, the budget and trends in pupil attendance and lateness. The revised Homework Policy and the Policy for S.E.N. were adopted. A draft policy on anti-bullying and anti-hate can be found here - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/policies-1/> and your views are invited.

In due course the agreed minutes from the FGB will be posted online. Minutes are published to help readers understand the work of Governors. Readers need to be aware that the minutes of a Governor's meeting detail the main aspects of discussion, but do not attempt to record, word-for-word, who said what. Minutes are written to aid recall of the factual aspects of the meeting. They will detail decisions made, but not, for example, the eloquence and passion of those making a contribution to the debate, nor the amount of time devoted to each issue. It is therefore not possible to infer significance – or lack of significance – on different items from this factual record.

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.

HOMEWORK Following the Governor's meeting last term, the staff have reviewed the school's Homework Policy. Among the changes made 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.

FORGIVENESS IS THIS TERM'S CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.

In 1526 local Bible translator, William Tyndale (he of the Tyndale Monument fame) wrote:

"forgeve vs oure treaspases, even as we forgeve them which treaspas vs"

which today we recognise as "Forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us." - words from the heart of the Lord's Prayer.

SPORTING SUCCESS In the last week our Panathlon Team and Netball Team have achieved great success. Our netball & hockey teams have made it through to the COUNTY finals!



SCHOOL KIT AMNESTY Please can you have a hunt at home for any items of school sports kit which should have been returned to school. No questions asked, we will just be grateful to have it back!



SCHOOL UNIFORM DELIVERY Linela, our uniform suppliers, are offering free delivery on any uniform ordered before 12th April (to be delivered on the 25th in school time). Please place your orders on their website: www.linelashop.co.uk

BOOKS WANTED Our older readers (Classes 3 & 4) would very much appreciate any donation of good quality reading books they may have been read at home and/or out grown. Recommended titles are especially appreciated!

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!

Save the date, Saturday 8th June. More details to follow.

RAGS TO RICHES - UPDATE Please save up your unwanted clothes and other items for a Clothes Recycling collection, which will happen on the 13th May. Please bring your items on FRIDAY 10th or MONDAY 11th (before 10 a.m.) School receives 50p per kilo for good quality clothing. Details of what can be recycled is on the front door window.

'NIBLEY GREEN' - Towards a greener school.

Another item in our regular series on the actions we are taking as a school to ensure that our children - and their children - enjoy a better world. Here are some practical tips and ideas you may want to think about at home. Discuss these with your children too!

Children in classes 1 and 2 are enjoying their daily milk in reusable plastic beakers, rather than the single-use cartons (and straws, in wrappers) with which we are experienced. This has been achieved at no cost to the school, though I recognise the support of staff in pouring the milk and preparing the beakers. Is there a simple change you can make to reduce your use of plastic?



BOOKS NEWS At the last FONNS meeting it was agreed to buy a significant number of reading books for the school, to provide greater depth for some and 'parallel' books for others. Teachers will be making their choices now and will integrate these into our systems in due course. Thank you!

DIARY DATES	
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



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

FONNS
FUN Learning for North Nibley C of E 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