



Friday 17th May 2019

On this day in 1620, the first merry-go-round is seen at a fair in Philippapolis, Turkey.

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Dear Parents and Friends,

SATS

(Or National Tests, to give them their official title!) I just wanted to say how proud I am of the attitudes displayed by our current Year 6 during these testing times. It's a shame that 'encouragement, mutual support and understanding' are not officially graded. We think you are all working 'At Greater Depth' in these areas!

PICNIC

Class 4 had a wonderful afternoon up on 'the knoll' to celebrate the end of SATS for Year 6. Sports, den-building and kite flying were the order of the day.

TABLE TENNIS



"On Thursday afternoon we sent a team of Year 4's to play against Year 5 and 6 pupils from Cam Hopton and Dursley (because our Class 4 were off site on their post-SATS picnic). Against older players our team were pleased with their playing, winning some matches and one even getting second place! One said "I enjoyed it and won 2 of my 6 games". "I enjoyed being fully involved all the time. There was no waiting for a table to become free." Well done to you

all, and thank you to Mrs Browning for all her tuition over the years.



OPEN THE BOOK

This week a celebration was held at Gloucester Cathedral to celebrate 20 years of 'Open The Book'. Under the co-ordination and care of Sue Devine, children at North Nibley have been enjoying Bible stories in assembly for 15 of those years, so it was only right that she and a number of other supporters attended the celebration. They took with them a poster which featured quotes from our children, including this one: "I really appreciate the time put into the preparation and leading our OTB Collective Worship" By Sophie.

STAFF NEWS - UPDATE

In an earlier issue I wrote about the various changes happening at school. This week we have appointed a new member of staff to work with us to take over from Mrs Browning, and next week we hope to appoint another TA to work with our Year 3s and 4s in September, following Mrs S. Shephard's departure. Full details to follow.

Mrs Browning

Mrs Browning has worked at North Nibley for many years (with the occasional stint in other schools in between.) During that time she has worked intensely with individuals and groups, as required, and supported children to make progress in many ways. One of the things you may not know is that Mrs Browning has a talent for card making. Over the years the staff have enjoyed many creative, amusing and personalised cards which she has made to help us celebrate getting older! As we reflect on her imminent retirement, I think we will miss most her calm manner and encouragement of the children, her wise advice and her attention to detail in her work. Next Wednesday is her last day with us, so let's make it a good one!

MAKE IT COUNT!

Mrs Lewis is preparing a morning of maths, open to parents, where children will be on hand to illustrate the ways in which teaching and learning takes place. This builds on the highly successful evening we ran last time. Tuesday 21st May, from 9:30am. Please return the slip and the bottom of the letter to let us know you are coming!

ATTENDANCE, ABSENCE & LATENESS! Governors continue to monitor attendance closely. The latest data shows a slight drop in attendance, which is concerning. This drop is caused by a few children, rather than across the board. Governors have urged the school to apply for penalty notices where parents meet the criteria for unauthorised absences. Children are supervised at school from 8:40 a.m. and due in school for registration by 8:55. Late attenders - some repeatedly so - cause extra work and delay in the classrooms, which is unfair on the other learners. Incredibly, 16 children at the end of Term 4 were still on 100% attendance, with a further 5 having only a half day away. Well done to those individuals and families!

YEAR 6 TO YEAR 7 TRANSITION In the coming weeks all the secondary schools will be sending staff to North Nibley to talk to the staff and meet the children who will be travelling on in different directions in September.

GOVERNOR NEWS Last week governors attended Collective Worship, shortlisted applications for our vacant posts and attended interviews. The 3-yearly Health and Safety Inspection, and the Fire Safety Inspection were successfully negotiated, with many aspects singled out for praise. One governor attended throughout. It appears that the Governor Newsletter completed in time for the end of the Spring Term did not get distributed widely. Expect to see a copy in your email inbox soon, and apologies for any duplication.

RAGS TO RICHES An incredible half-ton of unwanted clothing was duly dispatched this week, in over 60 full bags. Thank you so much, we will let you know how much this has raised and what we intend to spend it on!

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!

HOPE IS THIS TERM'S CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." From the book of Jeremiah, Chapter 29.

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!

IMPROVING PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT I have had positive feedback from parents regarding the display of team points in Friday's assembly. The 'Grand totals' achieved by each school team (Air, Earth, Fire and Water) are now online and these can be followed here – <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/team-points/> You will also find details of what the points are given for on the same page.

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 - 80%

Class 2 - 97%

Class 3 - 100%

Class 4 - 54% (up 4%)



'NIBLEY GREEN' - Towards a greener world.

Another item in our regular series on the actions we can take 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! Last time I highlighted a local company selling beeswax wraps as an environmentally friendly alternative to cling film. But I forgot to include their name! They are The Beeswax Wrap Company Ltd. They are running an art competition for Key Stage Two children (Classes 3 & 4) and you can find out more here – <https://www.beeswaxwraps.co.uk/blog/2019/4/26/school-design-competitions>

They also host a 'Zero Waste' map of shops to help you shop in a more environmentally-friendly way. If you have a suggestion for inclusion in this part of the newsletter, we'd love to hear from you!



WORK DAY – UPDATED

I am hoping that a good number of parents, CHILDREN 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.

DIARY DATES

Sat 18 th May	Formula Goblin at Renishaw
Sun 19 th May	Spring Fayre 12 – 3 pm
Monday 20 th	Brush Monsters in Class 3!
Monday 20 th	Year 6 serving at the Village Hall
Tuesday 21 st	Maths with Parents - See above
Tuesday 21 st	NO ROUNDERS CLUB
Weds 22 nd	Festomane - Class 4
Weds 22 nd	Quad Kids - WHOLE CLASS 2 at KLB
Weds 22 nd	NO SPORTS CLUB
Thursday 23 rd	Maths competition - Year 6
Friday 24 th	FONNS 'Gate sale' - Ice Creams!
Friday 24 th	Last day of Term 5
Mon 3 rd JUNE	First Pupil Day of Term 6
Tuesday 4 th	Cluster Badminton Trip for Y2
Tuesday 4 th	Cathedral Leaver's Service for Y6
Weds 5 th	Matt Mason and his boat!
Weds 5 th	Local Area Finals for Nature Quiz team
Friday 7 th	World Cup Girl's Cricket
Weds 12 th	School Sports Day (1) This is the 'Traditional' variant. We hope to see many of you there, cheering on your team.

SUMMER 2019 – Pupil days	NEXT AUTUMN 2019 – Pupil days	NEXT SPRING 2020 – Pupil days	NEXT SUMMER 2020 – Pupil days
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 5 20/04/2020 – 22/05/2020
Term 6 03/06/2019 – 19/07/2019	Term 2 04/10/2019 – 20/12/2019	Term 4 24/02/2020 – 03/04/2020	Term 6 01/06/2020 – 17/07/2020



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

Supporting the school:

Here's an idea which could raise a lot of money for the school - AmazonSmile.

You can find all the information about using this FREE service reprinted on our website page here -

amazonsmile

 You shop. Amazon gives.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk>

FONNS
FUNdraising for North Nibley CofE 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