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Learning, Achievement, Faith & Fun!

# NEWSLETTER 283

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020

On this day in 1953 Francis Crick and James Watson discover the chemical structure of DNA-molecule (double-helix polymer).

Dear Parents and Friends,

## iSingPOP

Seven years ago the Church and School invited 'iSingPop' ( [www.isingpop.org](http://www.isingpop.org) ) to run a series of singing workshops with all the children of the school, record an album and perform a live concert in St Martin's Church. The songs are written to appeal to children and promote spiritual development. Nearly all the children who benefitted in 2013 have now left the school but the iSingPop songs remain popular and inspirational – effective worship resources during assembly time. I wrote to St Martin's to see if they would support a re-run and they have generously agreed to fund another series of workshops and a concert. These will take place from the 18<sup>th</sup> May, the week after Key Stage Two SATS.

### iSingPop 2013 – Recognise anyone?



## FURTHER SUPPORT FOR THE SCHOOL

Dr Wilson, Eliana's mum, has offered to co-ordinate a group which supports the school in prayer. If this appeals to you, or you are just curious, she would love to hear from you. She has agreed that her contact details can be passed through the school office, so please get in contact.

## DO CHECK OUT...

"Teach Your Monster To Read," an app for your tablets and phones (Android and Apple) with a free website too. Highly recommended by us (and the Department for Education too) for pre-schoolers. See <https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/> for more details.

## **DON'T FORGET... THE PARENT SURVEY 2020**

In December of 2018 we held our last wide-ranging Parent Survey. Governors and staff (and other parents!) are interested in finding out your views on a range of new initiatives, as well as seeing how your views on some 'traditional' questions might have changed. Question areas include swimming, reading books, parent meetings and assemblies, plus lots more. Last time we had 25 responses – that's less than a third of our 77 families. Please complete the survey – your views will inform our decision making. Find it here –

<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/parent-surveys/>

The online form will be closed on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 10:00 p.m.

(Please can I remind parents of Reception that their separate 'Joining' survey will be collated 6<sup>th</sup> March.)



## **RUNNER BEANS?**

There is a special SPORTS RELIEF MENU on 10<sup>th</sup> March. Menus have been sent home today.

## **SPORT'S RELIEF**

The school council have met and made plans. We are asking for a £2.00 donation to the charity and every child is going to sign up for a 2K or 5K run on the Friday afternoon from 1:15 pm. Adults who are willing to run are welcome to join us (for another £2:00!) (Sorry, no spectators this time. Come and run!) We plan to celebrate our running with cake and a drink at the end (and ask if you would kindly donate cakes!), all finished in time for the normal Friday worship.

## **ROWING 'TAKES OFF'**



A report from 3 girls who gave up break time to write: "On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February Classes 3 & 4 had a go on some rowing machines. Lily in Class 3 said "It took away my breath because it was so exhausting." Miriam added "It was a great experience." We did a 100m rowing race – the heroes were Daisy and Sasha. The man teaching us was very helpful and taught us all we needed to know. We hope we get better next time."

## LUNCH TIMES

We have reminded the children that they should be taking home the waste and packaging from their pack lunches. This supports you in knowing what does and does not get eaten (what they like or dislike, quantities you provide them with etc) and it helps us because we've calculated that last year we spent £95 on black plastic bags. This will save money that can be better spent in classrooms and reduce our use of plastic across the school. Your support is appreciated.

### **JUSTICE IS THIS TERM'S CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.**

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

**WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 5TH MARCH.** Come dressed up as your favourite BOOK character. (Try not to be heavily influenced by films!) PLUS...

We are also holding a BOOK SWAP. Bring a book you don't mind parting with, and go home with a different title. I'd love to see some of these reviewed as an online book review!

## FURTHER PREMISES WORK

In the half-term we relocated servers and switches and routers, meaning we also rewired most of the school. As a result, Class 4 are now able to concentrate in complete silence, now that the noisy hardware has gone from their classroom. The final part of the networking upgrade we see us 'offline' on Monday and much of Tuesday next week, so please DO NOT RELY ON EMAIL for your urgent messages.

## NETBALL

Once again our team made it through to the County Finals, where the children were pleased to finish second overall. It was an indoor competition; the first time the children had played indoors. "We played two matches, against Birdlip and Berkeley." Many of the children scored goals. One scored an 'awesome goal' but it didn't get counted. Another said "It felt to be selected to play for my school." A third added "Lots of parents were very encouraging and helped us to play well."



## CAN YOU HELP? UPDATE

Three parents stepped forward. I'm grateful to Mrs Simpson, Mr Hunter and Mrs I'Anson for digital copies of the lyrics of around 80 popular / traditional children's songs. We have another selection so if you can help, these need to be found online and copied to a word document. I have the list, so if you could do 20, 40 or even 60 ish please let me know.

## AND ALSO...

Do any of our parents work with large thin sheets of metal? I have an idea....

## CORONA VIRUS

The Chief Medical Advisor for England, Chris Whitty updated advice for travellers returning to the UK from specific areas affected by COVID-19, which you can find at: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

If you have returned from any of these areas you must make this clear, so that we can take appropriate steps.

## RAGS TO RICHES

Please save up your unwanted clothes and other items for a Clothes Recycling collection. This will take place in March so don't bring them in yet. School receives 50p per kilo for good quality clothing. Details of what can be recycled is on the window and there is a leaflet coming home today. Please drop of your collections any time after lunch on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March, and BEFORE 9:30 on Monday morning.

### 'NIBLEY GREEN' - Towards a greener world.

Practical ideas 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 tips and ideas you may want to think about at home. Discuss these with your children too!



Next time you are in, have a look at the noticeboard opposite the office. Mrs Kirby has used this space to celebrate the work we've done so far in becoming a greener school.

Today's tip – TURN OFF LIGHTS WHEN YOU ARE NOT IN THE ROOM. We will be appointing light monitors in school to check that we are following our own advice.

If you have a suggestion for inclusion in this part of the newsletter, we'd love to hear from you!

## **FAIRTRADE**

Fairtrade Fortnight: 24 February – 8 March 2020

The Wotton Fairtrade Town Group is organising an event for Fairtrade Fortnight 2020. There's not going to be a separate day for schools this year but they will be holding a "Wotton in the World" event on Saturday 29 March from 9.30 – 12.30 at Wotton Baptist Church Hall. There will be activities and storytelling, as well as a Fairtrade chocolate cake bake competition – with prizes for children and adult bakers.

The Wotton Fairtrade Town group is working to encourage more people to think about what Fairtrade means - in terms of fair prices, decent working conditions and local sustainability - and to consider it in their shopping choices.

## **MUSIC FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS WANTED:**

As you know, the Music Festival is a major opportunity for fundraising, but FONNS need a lot of support. The 'sign-up sheet' is available now, so act quickly to get your preferred 'slot'. Please help.

Nibley Music Festival is Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July.

**PLEASE READ THE FONNS UPDATE ATTACHED  
TO THIS NEWSLETTER.**

## **NIBLEY FESTIVAL VILLAGE TICKET SALE 15-29 FEB 2020**

The online ticket sale for villagers will be from 15<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> February.

Please use the following weblink:  
<https://nibleyfestival.co.uk/tickets/playdough>

Please note:

- You can buy at any time in this two-week period. The links will not be active before or after these dates.
- The card you pay with must be registered to your Nibley address. If you do not live in the village we will check you have a genuine Nibley connection.
- If you do not have access to the internet, there is a laptop at the Hub you can use for free.
- As in previous years, villagers can buy a reasonable number of tickets for their family and close friends. However please do not share the link with them!

More information including ticket prices for 2020 can be found at: <https://nibleyfestival.co.uk/tickets/>

If you have any questions, please email [info@nibleyfestival.co.uk](mailto:info@nibleyfestival.co.uk)

## **THE SCHOOL WISHLIST**

We host an interactive wishlist, on our website, to capture the wishes of the community and utilise the limited funds to fulfil the needs of the school.

We would very much like parents, teachers, and governors to contribute to the list. Thoughts and ideas of things that may be needed around the school, in the curriculum or with our resources would be welcomed. These can be small or high value items.

It is intended that by publishing this list and working transparently, the whole community can be unified in achieving the resource ambitions of the school.

You can find the wishlist here -

<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/wishlist/>

**Class Dojo** is a fantastic app which connects you with what's happening in class. Increasingly teachers are using these to pass messages on which they think you might have missed. Its primary use, however, is to share photos and stories, and deliver 'good news' about the Team/Monster/Dojo points for great work, demonstrating our values, effort and progress. If you've not signed up yet, please ask your teacher how to join.

PARENTS JOINING:

CLASS 1 – 22%

CLASS 2 – 92%

CLASS 3 – 100%

CLASS 4 – 79%

DIARY DATES	
SAT 29th	Cross-Country County Championships!
Monday MARCH 2nd	EMAIL 'BLACKOUT' – See above. Swimming Gov's Teaching & Learning Committee
Tues 3rd	EMAIL 'BLACKOUT' – See above. Cluster Head Teacher meeting
Weds 4th	FONNS MEETING – 7:30
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day – see above Archery Competition
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	DEADLINE for Parent Surveys
Weds 11th	Quick-Sticks Hockey
Thurs 12th	SCIENCE DAY – Watch this space
Friday 13th	Sports Relief, details to follow inc. 5K run! Clothes Collection
SAT 14th	FONNS BINGO 4:00 p.m. See flyers
Weds 18th	Reception – Height, Weith & Sight checks Year 6 – Height & Weight checks Tag Rugby Full Governor's Meeting
Friday 20th	Rotary Children's Concert – decision pending
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	Village Clean-Up day.

For the latest Term Dates 'Poster' - visit

<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/term-dates/>

SPRING 2020 – Pupil days	
Term 3	06/01/2020 – 14/02/2020
Term 4	24/02/2020 – 03/04/2020
SUMMER 2020 – Pupil days	
Term 5	20/04/2020 – 22/05/2020 ( <b>May Day 8<sup>th</sup></b> )
Term 6	01/06/2020 - 17/07/2020 ( <b>INSET 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b> )
NEXT AUTUMN 2020 – Pupil days	
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September to Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November to Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	
NEXT SPRING 2021 – Pupil days	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 to Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February to Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	
NEXT SUMMER 2021 – Pupil days	
19 <sup>th</sup> April to 28 <sup>th</sup> May ( <b>May Day 3<sup>rd</sup></b> )	
7 <sup>th</sup> June to 20 <sup>th</sup> July ( <b>INSET 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b> )	