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Learning, Achievement, Faith & Fun!

NEWSLETTER 290

Friday 19th June 2020

GENEROSITY IS THIS TERM'S CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.

"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you." — John Bunyan

Dear Parents and Friends,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones well. A lot has happened since the last newsletter. Partly I write this because, despite a daily readership of some 84 parents, we have 116 parents signed up. So some families are missing out. I know there are around 5 families who no longer read Class Dojo at all. That means they, and their children, could be missing out. Perhaps this newsletter will reach further?

For example:

Did your child miss their birthday messages? (Or a chance to wish a friend a special day?) Did they miss the invitation to participate in an Open The Book assembly, or the possibility of nominating a song for the Daily Update?

Musicians – we are trying to put together a virtual orchestra! We need 'Happy Birthday' tunes too.

REOPENING SCHOOL – A WIDER OFFER

On Monday we anticipate in school:

Reception	6 out of 15	(rising to 9 on 29 th)
Year 1	13 out of 18	(rising to 14 on 29 th)
Year 5	9 out of 15	
Year 6	13 out of 13	

Critical Worker children (as needed / fluctuates)

Parents of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have until 6 p.m. on Sunday to let me know if they are putting off a return until the Autumn. After this I will know if there are any currently 'held' places which can be released.

Opening has gone smoothly, thanks to the hard work and flexibility of the staff.

Booking is now exclusively online since this allows the centralisation and easy sharing of information (and it avoids ambiguity too!) See

<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/reopening-school/>

PARENTS OF CURRENT RECEPTION CHILDREN

We will shortly be sending you an email to communicate our thoughts on next year's class structure. Please watch out for, and respond to, this important letter.

STAFF NEWS

Helen Morgan, a long-standing member of the staff as a Mid-Day Supervisor, announced her retirement from the school. In due course we will find a way to thank her for her significant involvement and commitment to your children. I will provide details nearer the time.

For the time being the mid-day staff – supported by admin and teaching assistants – are able to cover her duties (at a stretch). When school returns to normal we will be seeking to make an appointment and those who feel they – or someone they know – could make a valuable contribution are asked to watch this space.

CURRICULUM CONSULTATION

In the middle of March, I announced a 'public' consultation on the new Relationships and Sex Education Policy that schools are required to have in place before the school year 2020-2021 begins.

At our video-conferenced Governor meeting last night we agreed to extend the consultation period until 30th June, so if you wished to express a view head over to our school website and download the draft policy.

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

CATCH-UP PROGRAMMES - BREAKING NEWS

On the radio today the government were talking about catch-up programmes for children. It is clear that over one third of the money promised will be directed at children in receipt of benefits-related free school meals. (This is a separate category from the 'Universal' free school meals for which our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils automatically qualify. You can have both!) If you feel that your circumstances, even temporarily, might now make you eligible, I urge you to apply. Pupil Premium Grants benefit your own child directly, as well as school as a whole. This web page - <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/> tells you the criteria for qualifying for the free school meals (Pupil Premium).

SCHOOL UNIFORM ORDERS

We are working on the assumption that we will be opening fully in September (at some point!) – but this is still an assumption. Linela – the school uniform company have asked us to remind you that orders can be placed with Linela at any time and either collected, have delivered to home or delivered to school.

"The absolute last date to order for delivery to school is 16th August and the delivery will come through to school for collection on 1st September. There will be no deliveries to school before then. Please order as early as possible as Linela are running on a reduced number of staff. Order by 16th August at the latest for school delivery." <https://www.linelashop.co.uk/product-category/schools-embroidery-for-uniforms/>

On behalf of the team, have a happy and safe weekend,
Mr Batchelor.