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**L**earning, **A**chievement, **F**aith & **F**un!

# NEWSLETTER 348

Monday 18th July 2021

## PERSEVERANCE IS OUR CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.

"Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do." – Pele.

Dear Parents and Friends,

### FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY...

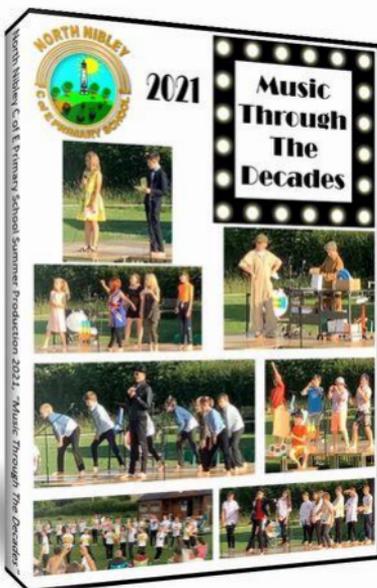


This year's Summer Production took us into new territory – literally – as the children performed in the field for the first time. Multiple acts allowed us to showcase the talents of all the juniors and by the end the audience were on their feet and dancing. From Glenn Miller to Billie Eilish, Music Through The Decades had something for everyone. The children were awesome and the staff had a 'blast'. Props, costumes, choreography and direction were superb and the entire project gave a real focus to the end of another school year. Thank you to everyone involved.

### FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY – REPEATED!

What better way to 'spice up your life' than reliving the 'thriller' that was this year's summer production? Orders, with £5 cash, can now be placed (no cash, no order!) This year we are experimenting with a USB stick version, since manufacturing the DVDs is time consuming. With a limited amount of time to copy these before the end

of the year, if demand exceeds supply then those families leaving us this year will get priority. ONLY a cash payment at the office will reserve your copy. Thank you. UPDATE – the supply of USB sticks is due to arrive Monday! It will be a long night!





### **CRICKET TOURNAMENT**

On Tuesday 10 of our Year 6 went down to Frocester Cricket Club and completed in a Kwik Cricket tournament against 110 other schools.

"In the 'pool' stage we were pitched against 3 other schools (Croft, Leonard Stanley B team and Randwick) and we won each game. In the semi-finals we went against Chalford Hill, and we beat them too to earn a place in the finals. We were up against our 'old rivals', Leonard Stanley A team. They had beaten us in District Finals 2 years ago. After a close clash, with good fielding and batting on both sides, they won by just 3 runs. There was good sportsmanship all round. It was a good day and everyone played well and enjoyed themselves." By George.



### **GOOD BYE MRS SHEPHERD – AND THANK YOU**

As previously noted, Friday marked Dawn Shepherd's last 'Open The Book' with us, and this moment was chosen to wish her well for the future, as she embarks on a course to allow her to use her teaching skills in the UK as a recognised teacher. We know she will 'ace' every criteria because "she makes learning fun". Thank you Dawn, for the caring, committed and thoughtful approach you have shown in the classroom and beyond. (Dawn is also working Monday and Tuesday this week, but this was her moment!)

Thanks to the generosity of parents, staff and governors, we were able to send her home with a large standard rose, decorative planter, champagne and a John Lewis voucher (plus plenty of cards!)

## YEAR 6 LEAVER'S SERVICE – CHANGE OF PLAN

Sorry, the heat has become oppressive and given rise to health and safety concerns. At the last minute we have decided to hold this in the CHURCH.

- It will start around 1:15.
- Only Classes 3 & 4 will attend, along with family members from Year 6. So sorry to disappoint others.
- If it finishes before the end of school, those with parents on site will be able to leave early.

## ONLINE SAFETY OVER THE SUMMER HOLIDAY

There is a good chance that an increased number of children will find themselves turning to online entertainment over the summer. Parents are reminded that the online 'world' presents real risks that need to be managed. With the release of a new Safeguarding Document – 'Keeping Children Safe 2021' staff have received new training, and a reminder that children as young as 8 are being actively targeted on app such as Kik Messenger, WhatsApp, Bumble, Holla, Live.Me, Omegle, Fake Calculator, Snapchat, Hot or Not, Burnbook, Ask.FM & Instagram. Please be vigilant.

One site that has made a big influence on myself, in my role as computing teacher and safeguarding lead, is Twisted Toys <https://twisted-toys.com/>

"Imagine if all the harmful features of the digital world were in traditional toys..."

Each toy has a 'sales' video, in the style of a children's advert, but communicates an important message. For example, "Share Bear"



**Haha! I heard that!** Sharebear is the cuddly companion who just loves to share. He wants to know your favourite colour, your best friend, your immigration status, sleep patterns, sexual preferences, the economic indicators of where you live and every other data point that can be exploited for profit. What a cutie! And don't worry, he doesn't keep your secrets in his little head. Your data is shared and used by billion-dollar tech companies!



See also -

or

I strongly recommend that you view these – without children present on the first viewing – and perhaps use these to start a conversation with your children. I have also updated the school's website page on online safety - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/staying-safe-online/>

## **EURO 2020**

Mrs Dixon has led an initiative across the school whereby children were encouraged to follow the progress of a randomly drawn team. Winners of the 'Euro 2020 water bottles were 'Italy supporters' Rex, Adele, Anya and Amelie. Congratulations – I think!

## **NEXT YEAR**

- From September, Class 3's teacher Mrs Lewis will be referred to as Miss Parker.
- Mrs Roberts will be taking up additional hours in Classroom 3. These hours will become permanent after the 'Covid-Catchup' money runs out.
- Mrs Pullin will be taking up additional hours and working alongside Ms Surridge in Classroom 4. These hours will become permanent after the 'Covid-Catchup' money runs out.

An important letter about a change to next year's Term Dates has gone home. You can also find this change online - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/term-dates/>

The new school means menu has been uploaded here - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/school-meals-menus/> and we now begin on a Week 2.

We have decided to continue with a 'soft start' in each class. Children may arrive from 8:40, directly into their classes, but **MUST** be in by 8:55, when registers are taken swiftly and school meal orders placed. Later than this causes us to re-do registers and re-send lunch (effectively doubling our work) orders, so please respect this 8:55 arrival time. Please enter at the front door. ('New' Reception have their own instructions for their first days).

One thing we are retaining is the regular use of hand sanitizers. We have been SO impressed with this year's attendance statistics, and believe that an increased focus on keeping clean has significantly reduced the number of sick days and lost learning time. 38 children have achieved 100% attendance this year, when normally only 4 or 5 might be expected. Well done!

In September, if all is well, we are planning that all 'restrictions' linked to bubbles will be removed. There will be no divided playground and no more staggered lunchtimes. We will all end the school day at 3:15 p.m.

We are continuing with arriving at school in PE kit on PE days, as follows:

Classes 1 & 2 - 'Double' PE on Thursdays

Classes 3 – 'Double' PE on Fridays

Classes 4 – 'Double' PE on both Wednesdays & Fridays

Also in September, I can confirm that cycling shorts will no longer be acceptable for PE lessons. The exception to this is gymnastics lessons. For all other PE lessons we require shorts that allow air to circulate.

Friday's 'Celebration' Assemblies will resume from Friday 10th and as 'usual' everyone is welcome to attend. We will take a view on mask wearing nearer the time.

## **WELCOMING 'YEAR 1'**

The current Reception year group have yet to have their 'public' welcome service. If you would like to attend, I have pencilled this in for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 2:40. They need to find a special stone, add their name to it, and have it in school by Weds 15<sup>th</sup> September please.

## **NHS TEST AND TRACE**

From 19 July, schools will no longer be responsible for contact tracing in the event of a positive case. NHS test and trace will make contact with the parents of a positive case and will trace household and community contacts. We have been advised that they will not be contacting schools to track close contacts.

Schools responsibilities from 19 July until the end of term will be to:

- Isolate symptomatic children and send them home, with the advice to take a PCR test
- Request parents to inform the school of positive cases (both LFT and PCR)

## **FINANCIAL HELP**

I understand that in these strange times many families are under financial stress. Please, please, please consider applying for Free School Meals, even for children in Classes 1 & 2. Children who are eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant would be entitled to free school meals whatever year group they were in BUT ALSO, around £1,345 would be paid to the school which we could use to benefit them in many ways, including Teaching Assistant help, uniform, the costs with swimming etc and visits such as the London residential. Even better, this benefit would stay with them and the school, being paid for 6 more years even after their family ceased to qualify.

What are the qualifying criteria for Free School Meals?

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

## **SCHOOL MEALS**

As we approach the end of the year, please maintain sufficient funds in your ParentPay accounts to pay for your cooked school meals. **PARENTS OF YEAR 6** are reminded to cover their costs. It will not be fair on the remaining children if we have to cover Y6 debts.



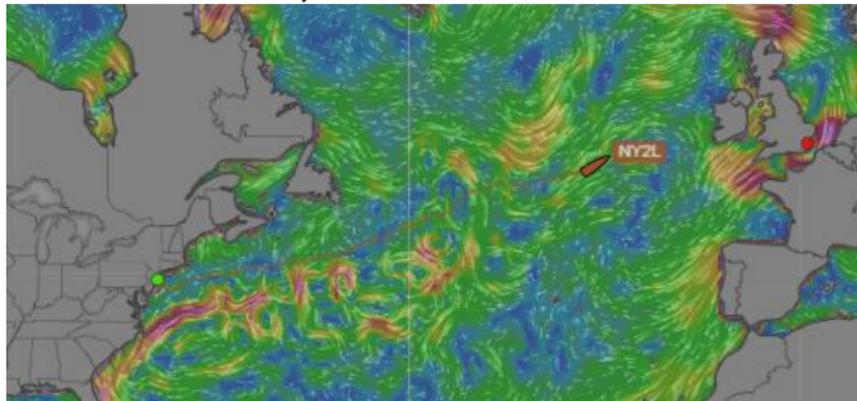
## THANK YOU TO...

Our grateful thanks to Mrs Simpson, Mrs Sellers, 'Aunt Pip' and the children for painting the 'Wendy House' in Class 1's external playground. It looks gorgeous! Do the colours remind you of a certain school logo?

Another initiative to smarten the school involves the replacement of the raised beds along the front of the school. We are actively seeking funds for this project and you can contribute at this 'Just Giving' page - [https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/north-nibley-planters?utm\\_term=AzbXQwmey](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/north-nibley-planters?utm_term=AzbXQwmey)

**Please support this initiative.**

## PLASTIC OCEANS / OCEAN REVIVAL



'Uncle Matt' and the 'NY2L' (New York to London) team have now completed 72% of 'the world's most dangerous row'. Follow the team's progress on the Ocean Revival website -

<https://oceanrevivaladventures.com/>

Whilst there, watch the 'Plastic Ocean' video and find out why we must ALL play a part in saving the world.

**The team would LOVE to receive (copies of) pictures and other messages which we can send to them electronically, so CHILDREN why not send them your best wishes. Hand these to your teachers next week!**

**FONNS**  
FUNdraising for North Nibley CofE Primary School

We are so grateful to FONNS - they have injected another £1,000 into the school's reading book scheme, allowing our stock to stay fresh, clean and relevant, although of course the supply of funds is not endless and we urge all families to do what they can to protect our books, so that they can be used by many years of

children in the future. Thank you to everyone who actively supports the work of FONNS. We are hoping that when things become more normal, a good number of you, especially from the younger classes, are able to join the meetings next year. Why not take a moment to introduce yourselves at the...



Everyone is welcome, including families new to the school in September, and even last year's leavers!



**Wow!**  
Over £500 raised!  
Thank you so much to those who took part, to Lee Durham Racing for being such fabulous supporters of the school and to FONNS for organising this!

#### UPDATED TERM DATES

A reminder of the pupil days in the year ahead:

	First pupil day	Last pupil day
Term 6	Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> July
Term 1	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct
Term 2	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov.	Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Term 3	Weds 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan <b>2022</b>	Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb <b>2022</b>
Term 4	Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb <b>2022</b>	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> April <b>2022</b>
Term 5*	Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> April <b>2022</b>	Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> May <b>2022</b>

\*May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022 = Bank Holiday

**Thank you for your support over another eventful year. The triumphs outnumber the difficulties – always! Have a brilliant summer, Mr B, the Staff and governor.**