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Learning, Achievement, Faith & Fun!

NEWSLETTER 352

Thursday 30th September 2021

FRIENDSHIP IS OUR CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfil the law of Christ." The Bible - Galatians 6:2

Dear Parents and Friends,

iSingPop



What an exceptional evening we had at St Martin's Church on Tuesday night. Our school vision for Learning, Achievement, Faith and Fun was prominent throughout the joyful and thought-provoking songs, to which children sang and danced. We marvelled at what the children achieved after only a short time back in 'regular' school. Jessica and the iSingPop team brought their energy and support as well as a message of unity, of hope, of joy, rooted in solid Christian teaching.

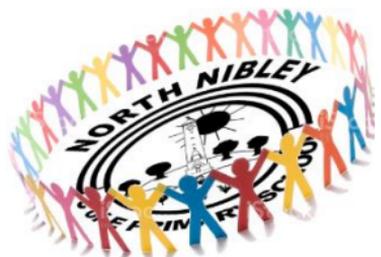
Our thanks go to the folk of St Martin's Church. This Church-School event would not have been possible without their practical support, their prayers and their financial sponsorship from which we have all benefitted.

On a sadder note, the video camera I was using to record the concert switched off after 20 minutes. If anyone has 'footage' of the latter half I would be most grateful to receive a copy. Hopefully, after editing, we can make this available online to enjoy in perpetuity!

TOMORROW - MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We are pleased to be supporting 'The World's Biggest Coffee Morning' once again. The community is invited to the school on Friday 1st October, between 9:30 and 11:30, to raise funds to fund cancer research and support people living with cancer. Class 4 will once again be your hosts. **PLEASE COULD YOU SUPPORT US BY BAKING AND DONATING CAKE?** Thank you.

School children are invited to bring along a small donation if they'd like to pop into the hall and collect a cake before break time!



YOUNG VOICES!

Rehearsals start on Tuesday NEXT WEEK, from 3:15 until 4:15, ahead of our exciting trip to Birmingham in January next year.

PLEASE HELP

Thursday 7th October is a 'census' date upon which a portion of our school funding is based. Please order a packed lunch on this day, especially if you have a child in Classes 1 & 2. This simple step (ordering a lunch) will be a real help to the school at a difficult time financially.

STAFF NEWS

After five years of strong support for the school, Julie Bargewell will finish working for us this term. Currently employed as Finance Officer, she also worked as Administrator and was the face of the school for visitors. She is thanked for her diligence, attention to detail and insight, as well as the relationships she built across the school and with the children as she received the registers each day. We have had some good laughs over the years and we wish her all the best for the future. Our plans for the office thereafter will take time to formulate, and we will keep you posted.

GOVERNOR NEWS

A vacancy has arisen on the Governing Board for a Foundation Governor. Mary Blogg will be stepping down at half-term. Mary has played a lead part in many key elements of strategy and development over the years, in particular the Computing strategy, and she is thanked for her hard work and guidance.

Those interested in the role may like to contact the Chair, Sue Bradley-Jones, to discuss the role of Governor, whilst Peter Hall can give further guidance on the 'Foundation (Church) aspect' of this Governor role".

MUSIC UPDATE

We are delighted to announce that we will be working with Rachel Russell, a music specialist, in order to further develop music in school. Mrs Russell was introduced to the children on Monday and next week she will be working in each class, two on Monday afternoon and two on Tuesday afternoon. Mrs Russell was previously head of music at a secondary school, but she has plenty of primary experience and we are excited to be working with her.

MUSIC LESSONS

I am making enquires about how parents might access a bursary to support with music lessons. At first glance it looks like a child would qualify if the household income is £27,000 or below. Please ask for details.

FREE MUSIC LESSONS? FREE SWIMMING?

Some of your children receive a special grant in school based on your household incomes (The Pupil Premium). If you qualify, and request it, we can use some of this money to pay for swimming lessons, lessons with musical instruments, trips and other expenses. Please have a conversation in confidence with myself about the Premium, or Mrs Kirby about the lessons.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL SUPPORT DURING OCT HALF-TERM

During the October half-term, Gloucestershire County Council is providing vouchers to parents who have signed up to the Holiday Free School Meals scheme. The vouchers are funded through COVID-19 grant funding and is separate to that of the mainstream free school meals. Please ask for details.

'NIBLEY GREEN' - Towards a greener world.

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!

CAN YOU RECYCLE... HUMAN HAIR?



Yes, you can. Back in 2010 RecycleNation listed 7 ways hair could be reused or recycled, including being used as jewellery, clothing and even furniture! See

<https://recyclenation.com/2010/11/recycled-human-hair/>

However, one common use is providing hair to be made into wigs, for example for those undergoing treatment for cancer. Little Princess Trust has a scheme which you might like to think about supporting. See

<https://www.littleprincesses.org.uk/donate-hair>

We STILL have many hundreds of unwanted spare plastic A4 'sleeves' If you NEED these and it would prevent your home or business from buying new, please ask at the office.

LOOKING AHEAD

Tomorrow – MacMillan Coffee Morning (see above)

Welcome Service, Reception (+), Friday, 2:40 p.m., school playground.

Harvest - Rev. Peter Marsh will lead a Harvest service for the children on TUESDAY 12th October. We are pleased to join with St. Martins, once again supporting Stroud District Food Bank, and we are happy to act as a collection point for a range of items listed on the attached poster. Please bring in your contributions on the morning of the 12th, and join us in the church from 9:00 (-ish – after registration) for our thanksgiving service.

Parents evening - The staff have agreed to hold these in school, face-to-face. More than ever, we require families to understand that we must stick to time, to avoid a lengthy wait in the corridors. Monday 18th October and Tuesday 19th October.

Open Day – Spread the word, we will be holding our Open Morning for prospective parents of Reception children (2022!) on Tuesday 9th November. Last year's promotional video, needed to sustain us through lockdowns, is still available. Though I hope to re-edit it to reflect current days, visiting us is better, if you can!

Clothes Collection - Mrs Kirby has organised another clothes collection, this time for Friday 5th November. Please keep hold of unwanted material until this date, which raises funds for school. Last time we raised £102. Thank you.

FONNS

FUNdraising for North Nibley CofE Primary School



The FONNS AGM takes place on Wednesday the 20th October at 7.30pm here in school (with doors and windows open!)

It's really important to get good representation from our families, old and new.

Please, please, please come along. Bring a friend! FONNS makes a real, positive difference to what we can achieve in school for all our pupils.

FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 1 AND RECEPTION, WHO HAVE PERHAPS NEVER BEEN IN SCHOOL, I WILL CONDUCT A TOUR!



TERM DATES

A reminder of the pupil days in the year ahead:

	First pupil day	Last pupil day
Term 1	Monday 6 th Sept	Fri 22 nd Oct
Term 2	Monday 1 st Nov.	Fri 17 th Dec
Term 3	Weds 5 th Jan 2022	Fri 18 th Feb 2022
Term 4	Mon 28 th Feb 2022	Fri 8 th April 2022
Term 5*	Mon 25 th April 2022	Fri 27 th May 2022
Term 6	Mon 6 th June 2022	Tues 19 th July 2022

*May 2nd 2022 = Bank Holiday