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Learning, Achievement, Faith & Fun!

NEWSLETTER 362

Friday 17th December 2021

FRIENDSHIP IS OUR CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.

"Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness, and he was called God's friend." James 2, verse 23.

Dear Parents and Friends,

NATIVITY

The Infant Nativity never fails to delight our visitors and this year was no exception. Children in Reception, Years 1 & 2 worked hard to bring us the story of how 'Little Angel Got Her Wings' (with its catchy songs and groovy actions!) and the nativity had a lesson for us all! A digital copy should be available shortly. Children and staff, 'filling in' for absent friends, made this particular year additionally challenging, and therefore particularly successful!



YEAR OF MUSIC

Readers might remember that in 2021-22 we wanted to lift the standard of music – performing, listening and appreciation, to another level, and invited specialist teacher Mrs Russell to join us!

On Monday and Tuesday the classes each performed to the others in their 'bubble' and these videos can be found on Class Dojo in each 'Class Story' and also on the 'School Story' so you can see the work and progression of each class.

In addition, on the 'School Story,' you'll find a performance by the School Orchestra, performing a Christmas Medley. Also...

HALLELUJAH!

Year 6's Christmas Surprise is watchable online now! This piece of festive fun would have been awesome in the Church, live, but hopefully this will still bring a tear of laughter to your eye. Sadly not all the Y6 were available on filming day, so the children nominated two year 5 pupils to meet the required number. Didn't they do well!

CLASS DOJO

I note that the average readership of a Class Dojo post from myself is 90. We have 148 Class Dojo contacts, so a significant number of you might not be getting the Covid updates 1st hand.

MRS HARVEY

Mrs Harvey joined the school in October 2018, having supported Superstars from earlier. She is relocating to warmer climes and unable to commute! We thank her for her support in Class 1, with the older children through Boxercise, and with ensuring that Superstars remains a viable support for our families.

SUPPORT IN CLASS 1

Class 1 are effectively without support now for a day and a half per week. We are attempting to create a number of new roles which may see these hours combined with a new play leader role. However, time to advance these plans is hindered by current difficulties and a staff already stretched. I am hoping in the interim to put in place a temporary solution and I will keep you apprised of developments.

YEAR 1 SPACE

We were sad to wave goodbye to one of our Year 1 pupils last week, as he and his family relocated to Wales. We now have a space within his year group. Anyone interested should contact the school directly.

SCIENCE UPDATE

Thank you for all your lovely posters. Miss Allen is saving the competition result until the new year...

STEM Activities for children and young people:

There are 2 very exciting STEM based activities that families can reserve tickets for that involve engineering and computer science. Please see details below:

Educraft: 6-16 year olds can travel back in time to discover what coding was like 40 years ago by using the very same computers which were used back then! Children will be designing and animating their very own video game as well as having the opportunity to kick back and play some classic games. A great opportunity to learn and play for all the gamers out there! [Click here for more information and to book.](#) You can also view a trailer they have put together to advertise their offer this December by [clicking here.](#)

Bloodhound: 6-15 year olds will have the opportunity to see 'engineering in action'; learning about various science engineering technologies such as the Bloodhound Land Speed Record Car. Afterwards, children will have the opportunity to build and race their very own prototype car! At the end of the day, you will be leaving with a souvenir from the day and activity pack for the family to take part in back at home. [Click here for more information and to book.](#)

SPRING MENU

This is exactly the same as the earlier autumn menu (with the original three choices).

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

'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!



EVERYONE DOES THIS, RIGHT?

Write your entire greeting on the inside page which is NOT the reverse of the card front. That way, the card cover can be used again as a gift tag, saving your money and reducing your carbon footprint.

(Don't forget to recycle the gift tags next year!)

NEW JOINER'S SURVEY

Around this time each year we ask those who have joined us in 2021 (mostly Reception but also older children joining 'in-year') to complete a quick survey. The information you provide helps us to plan for improvement. <https://forms.gle/KDLqFuiRVvdES3on8>

CHRISTINGLE

Please return any full, empty or unwanted boxes in the new year, or take them to St Martin's Church at 6:00 on Christmas Eve!



GOVERNOR NEWS

We have a vacancy on our Governing Board, for a Foundation Governor. Foundation Governors are not ordinarily parents, so please spread the word out to the community. Those interested in taking up a place may like to contact the Chair, Sue Bradley-Jones, to discuss the role of Governor. Peter Hall can give further guidance on the 'Foundation (Church) aspect' of this Governor role.

POLICIES UPDATE

Governors have been diligent in keeping on top of the policy review schedule and the following renewed policies can be found on our webpage here - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/policies/>

They include

- Attendance
- Behaviour Principles
- Children Missing Education
- First Aid

CONSULTATION

Please don't forget the full, public consultation of our new Admissions Policy. It has been re-written to improve clarity and introduce some key changes, on which your views are sought. You can find out more here - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/consultation/>

REDUNDANT RADIATORS

When it was clear that the heating works would not be finished in time, four brand new, but temporary radiators were bought for the school. Two months later they were removed. We are able to sell these on. They are white, measure 145 cm by 61 cm by 11 cm and are complete with wall brackets and valves. Please ask if interested.

THE HARDEST TERM

This term has honestly been the hardest so far. My grateful thanks go to the staff who have done all they can to maintain 'school-normal' for the children whilst behind the scenes they cover any absence resulting from positive cases, shielding, illness, dashes to get booster jabs, or to get tests and those waiting for test results. The fatigue is palpable and they deserve this break more than ever.

TERM DATES

A reminder of the pupil days in the year ahead: *May 2nd 2022 = Bank Holiday.

	First pupil day	Last pupil day
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
Term 1	These will be confirmed at the	
Term 2	Governor's meeting on 12 th January.	



The Christmas raffle draw has been completed and prize winners contacted. The committee thank you for your ongoing support and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

CAROLS 'NOT' BY CANDLE LIGHT



Sadly the wind proved too strong for the candles in front of the lodge but the lights and decorations looked lovely in the evening. As shepherds, we met on the fields. As wise men we followed the star. As angels we sang out the good news of Christmas.

From the staff team here at school, may this Christmas be all that you, and your loved ones, need it to be.

We'll see the children back on Wednesday 5th January 2021. Happy New Year!