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Learning, Achievement, Faith & Fun!

NEWSLETTER 395

Friday 18th November 2022

RESPECT IS THIS TERM'S CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.

The sixth of the Ten Commandments – "Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you." The Book of Exodus Chapter 20, verse 12.

Dear Parents and Friends,

WELL DONE, TEAMS!



On Wednesday, Class 4 and a few year 4's got split into 4 teams to go to a netball tournament to compete against other schools, to experience the competition and most importantly have fun! The red and the green team were both in the diamond league which meant that we had to compete against each other in one of our games. We played 5 different teams which included: The British School, Trinity, North Nibley Green Team, Stone and Alexander Hosea. The red team won all of their matches apart from 1 which meant that we had a good chance of winning and it was very tense when it was the presentation and they got to the leaderboard. We were all very cold by the end of it (and our fingers got quite numb) but we got through it and **WON!!**

Anya was quoted as saying, "Despite the coldness, I think we played really well." Harvey said, "The game against Trinity was the hardest as they're a strong team." Despite that, we all played well, had fun and even started communicating with people in other schools. Thank you, Mrs Bates, for organising this and thank you to Mrs Dixon for letting us go.
Report by Ellie-May and Indi.

TIMES TABLE ROCK STARS

Amazing number work, children! Out of 244 'nearby' Primary Schools, North Nibley came 4th in the recent competition, with 1,584 points scored. Over half a million primary and secondary schools took part.

VISITORS! (PART 2)



Class 1 had invited two ladies to school who worked with baby and injured hedgehogs. The children learnt where the best places were to find hedgehogs and that hedgehogs eat beetles, caterpillars and worms.

STAFF ABSENCES

As well as the occasional illness, Class Teachers have been working away from the children recently bringing training up to date and working hard on planning the curriculum in greater detail than ever before. I am grateful to Mrs Pullin and Mrs Shepherd for additional supply work in recent days.

HAVE A HEART...



As part of Class 4's science, Mrs Shepherd led the class in a dissection of the heart and lungs of a sheep. It was both "fascinating" and "messy" but helpful in making clear the learning that is expected by this curriculum. Some of the children chose to skip the practical and worked outside the classroom. Others got stuck in!

SHOEBOX APPEAL

Traditionally we support a Christmas Shoebox appeal and in recent years the Rotary Club have done fabulous work getting our gifts out to Eastern Europe, including Ukraine. We have a limited number of boxes and time is short, so only if you are prepared to take part (Including the compulsory £2.00 shipping fee) please ask in the office. Boxes taken and not returned will cost the school £2, so please only take one if you are committed.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

As part of our work on anti-bullying, the children of Class 4 completed an anonymous survey on behaviour in school, with a focus on any '-isms' and '-phobias' which they have come across. By and large, the children were very positive about each other and the work of the school. The results of this will feed into the Equality Action Plan which is due before Christmas.

POLICY UPDATE

In the latest meeting, governors have reviewed and adopted the following policies:

Supporting children with Medical Conditions

Admissions Policy 2024-25

Staff Conduct Policy

Equalities (subject to an alteration based on the pupil survey.) These should be uploaded this weekend.

PUPIL ABSENCES

Parents, we have a problem. The rates of absence we are experiencing as a school is notably down on previous years, with many children already classed as 'persistent absentees' by the government (i.e. less than 90% attendance) and many, many more close to this threshold. 90% is the rate at which evidence of falling behind is clear, **AND DIFFICULT TO RECOVER FROM.** Please make every effort to attend. Absences for funerals, music & ballet exams (and similar) will always be granted. Parents must push, wherever possible, to secure medical appointments outside of school hours. Occasional and 'family' days can almost never be justified. Pupil progress must not be sacrificed due to 'feeling tired'. Try earlier bedtimes instead!

HATS OFF TO OUR PLAYLEADERS

Each year we train our Year 6's to be 'Play Leaders' in this recognised, national scheme. Their training, led by Sharron Bates from KLB, is now complete and the children are tasked with keeping a diary of the events they run or support, especially when working with younger children during our regular playtimes and lunch breaks. Their organisational skills are pushed to the limit in the 'Play Leader's Sports Day – coming to you in July 2023!



PERMISSION SLIPS, MONEY, LETTERS ETC

It remains our strong preference that slips etc are handed in to the class teacher. This process allows children to further develop their independence and keeps a multitude out of the office at what can be a busy time of day. If we could revert to this proven system it would be much appreciated.

NEXT WEEK

Tues 22nd – Non-School Uniform for FONNS.

Weds 23rd – Class 3 Walk Like An Egyptian.

NIBLEY GREEN

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!

FEED THE BIRDS...

Birds may find it difficult to find natural foods such as berries, insects, seeds, worms and fruit during this cold season. Therefore, any extra food you can put out will help. Leave food out for birds regularly and every day when possible, and fill up longer lasting feeders if you're away.

Place fat blocks in wire cages. Balls in plastic nets are not recommended as birds such as woodpeckers can get their tongues caught.

Alternate different recipes to entice a range of birds; peanut cakes for starlings, insect cakes for tits and berry cakes for finches.

Put out finely chopped bacon rind and grated cheese for small birds such as wrens. Send me your tips for this regular item -

newsletter@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk

DECEMBER

Thurs 1st – Girls County Football Finals

Fri 2nd – PANTO! (Thank you FONNS!)

Fri 2nd - FONNS Christmas Fayre

Sat 3rd - Cross Country

Tues 6th - Year 7 'FEEDBACK' (Mince pies and catchup)

Tues 6th – Class 1 & 2 NATIVITY! 1:30 and 6 p.m.

Weds 7th – Invitation – see below.

Thurs 8th – Experience Christmas – with St Martin's Church

Thurs 8th – LAST Running Club

Mon 12th – Carols in the Church. 6:15 start.

Fri 16th - LAST DAY OF TERM

You can find DRAFT DATES for 2023 – 24, and 2024 – 25

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

	First pupil day	Last pupil day
Term 2	Tues 1 st Nov	Fri 16 th Dec
Term 3	Weds 4 th Jan 2023	Fri 17 th Feb 2023
Term 4	Mon 27 th Feb	Fri 31 st March
Term 5	Mon 17 th April	Fri 26 th May
Term 6	Mon 5 th June	Friday 21 st July
Term 1	TBC (New Head Teacher)	

SMILE – AND RAISE MONEY FOR THE SCHOOL!

Buy through Amazon Smile! The same company, the same choice, the same prices, the same service, plus free money for school! **This raised around £160 last year!**

In the build-up to CHRISTMAS, you could easily raise funds through Amazon Smile. You can find all the information about this FREE service on our webpage here -

<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/pta-fonns/>

If you nominate North Nibley School PTFA as your chosen charity, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to FONNS! You can now access Amazon Smile through apps on iPhone and Android phones.



<https://smile.amazon.co.uk>