



# NEWSLETTER 255

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019

On this day in 1934, Edwin Hubble's photo shows as many galaxies as the Milky Way has stars.

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Dear Parents and Friends,

**Cross-Country** Following our recent triumph at the local cross-country races, six of our children competed in the county finals. One said "These were held at St Edwards school in Cheltenham on Saturday." "It was a very tiring race." "Yes, course was tough, it was well over a mile." "The hill was very tough but our efforts paid off." "I was really pleased with my result." "The final straight was great, with all the supporters cheering us on." Mrs Dixon writes "The children ran extremely well on Saturday. 5 out of the 6 children achieved a medal and one of our six has qualified for 'the Nationals' later in the year. Well done to everyone.



**FONNS DISCO** The children had a wonderful time on Friday night. Thank you to the wonderful DJ and all the FONNS folk for organising the evening.



**ONLINE SAFETY** Please find a link below to download the latest edition of DITTO, the free online safety magazine for schools and parents. Quite a diverse range of topics this month:

- Viral challenges.
  - Parental advice - from children.
  - Vulnerable children.
  - Miscommunication
  - YouTube repulsive comments.
  - Popular apps.
- Download here: <https://www.esafety-adviser.com/latest-newsletter/>

## GOVERNOR NEWS

Work towards the new building (break-out space) continues. Fiona Yarrow would be very interested to hear from any companies, businesses or individuals that you know of that might be willing to help us get over the final (financial) hurdles, especially now we are so close...

In the last two weeks Governors have been visiting assemblies and the classrooms, taking in lessons on music, writing and P.E. Each visit is followed up with a written report, including questions, which the staff then answer. The report and response are then circulated to all governors, and these become an agenda item at a future meeting. As well as commenting on the learning taking place, governors consider the behaviour of the children and the extent to which the school's values are visible in all that we do.

THIS INFORMATION IS PROVIDED AS A RESPONSE TO THE PARENT SURVEY, WHERE 25% OF FAMILIES WERE UNSURE WHAT GOVERNOR DID.



## SCHOOLS - FUNDING CRISIS

A transcript of the Parliamentary debate on school funding can be found on this link, and it's fascinating! I read "The Minister must know, however, as I do, that those measures (take by the government) do not go anywhere near far enough to meet the real-terms cuts that schools face year on year. The statistics from the School Cuts campaign, which were verified by the chair of the UK Statistics Authority, Sir David Norgrove, show that 91% of schools across England have experienced real-terms cuts in per-pupil funding since 2015."

**CLUBS** In addition to the published clubs, Class 4 begin their 'Formula Goblin club' next week and Ms Breen is starting a gardening club on Friday lunchtimes. Our two trainee teachers are also wanting to start a lunchtime club on peace and mindfulness. Thank you to everyone who goes the extra mile to offer opportunities to the children.

## FORGIVENESS IS THIS TERM'S CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.

"It takes a strong person to say sorry, and an even stronger person to forgive. (Anon)"

## SCHOOL VALUES IN ACTION

This year the school will be participating in the Village Clean Up 'Day' - though our shift will be in school hours on Friday 22nd March. The Parish Council will be supplying litter-pickers and we have committed to tidying the playing fields, Lower House Lane and all the way down the path to the sharp bend at Dovert Brook. Adults (especially those DBS 'cleared') are welcome to join us. The value is SERVICE. Children will need coats, gloves and wellies/strong boots if you have them. We are also keen to have as many of our DBS-cleared volunteers as possible support us, as small groups dispersed over a large area will be more effective. Please register your interest at the school office.

**WEBSITE UPDATES** Parent-Survey 2018 - results in full can be found here -

<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/parent-surveys/> Governor pages are also undergoing edits and improvements. Find 'Our Governors' under the 'About Us' tab on the front page.

## IMPROVING PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

Following our Parent Evening promotion, the classes can boast the following proportions of parents ready to receive photos for their children at work, as well as the latest team point information!

Class 1 - 68% (up 20%)

Class 2 - 89%

Class 3 - 91% (up 13%)

Class 4 - 25% (up 5%)



Which class will get to 100% first? If you haven't signed up yet, please do. The staff and School Council will be looking again at Team Points and how they might engender greater motivation in the very near future. Something a little more tangible might inspire the children of Class 4!

CAN I REMIND YOU that all 'electronic messages' regarding attendance, homeworks, behaviour etc should still arrive via the [admin@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk) email address. Messages concerning money should be sent to [finance@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:finance@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk). Teachers will not be using ClassDojo to read urgent messages, though we may still choose to send out messages this way when required. Thank you.

**MUSIC LESSONS** We have some spaces for piano, violin and woodwind lessons - please ask in the office if your child is interested before 12th March.

## RAGS TO RICHES

Please save up your unwanted clothes and other items for a Clothes Recycling collection. This will take place in May so don't bring them in yet. School receives 50p per kilo for good quality clothing. Details of what can be recycled is on the window

## 'NIBLEY GREEN' - Towards a greener school.

Many of you have responded positively to our intentions to promote a better understanding of environmentally friendly issues, and to take action as a school to ensure that our children - and their children - enjoy a better world. So I'm adding a section to the newsletter of practical tips and ideas you may want to think about at home. Discuss these with your children too!

It's taken some time, but the Batchelor household has switched over from single use plastic bottles to 'bars' for soap, shampoo and conditioner. You can buy these wrapped in environmentally friendly packaging on the high street and from online retailers such as Amazon (don't forget your FONNS fundraising code - instructions here - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/pta-fonns/> )



**RAGS TO RICHES - UPDATE** Please save up your unwanted clothes and other items for a Clothes Recycling collection, which will happen on the 13th May. Please bring your items on FRIDAY 10th or MONDAY 11th (before 10 a.m.) School receives 50p per kilo for good quality clothing. Details of what can be recycled is on the front door window.

**ADVANCED WARNING** Red Nose Day is coming - Friday 15th March. The School Council decided...

Non-School uniform day (£1.00 + donation please) and "North Nibley's Got Talent". A show by the children for the children.

After careful thought we have decided NOT to sell the Red Noses. Please pick your own! Another of Mr Batchelor's favourite jokes:

Did you hear the one about the person who invented the Knock, knock joke? He got the 'no-bell' prize.

**FONNS NEWS** A number of our parents supported the acoustic event in half term, making and serving food and raising over an incredible £500! Thank you, everyone.

**Supporting the school:** Here's an idea which could raise a lot of money for the school - AmazonSmile. You can find all the information about using this FREE service reprinted on our website page here –



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



**Music Festival Volunteers Wanted:** As you know, the Music Festival is a major opportunity for fundraising, but FONNS need a lot of support. The 'sign-up sheet' is available now for you to choose your preferred 'slot'. Please help.

DIARY DATES	
Monday 11th	Wildlife Quiz - Round 1
Thursday 14th?	'Minty the Sheep' - running behind schedule!
Friday 15th	Red Nose Day - NON-SCHOOL UNIFORM - See above
Monday 18th	Serving the Village Lunch - Year 6 group.
Weds 20th	Riddiford 5-a-side Football Finals Full Governing Body meeting
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Village Tidy - See above
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Governors - Teaching and Learning Committee, 6:30
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Rotary Quiz 6:30, Blue Coat School
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup>	High 5 Netball Finals - NO SPORTS CLUB
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Class 3 'Showcase' assembly.
Tues 2nd APRIL	Finance & Premises Meeting - new Budget. COUNTY FINALS! Netball and Hockey.
Thurs 4th	Woodwind - a new block of lessons begin.
Friday 5th	Last day for our student teachers. Last day of Term 4.
TUESDAY 23rd	FIRST DAY of Term 5.

SPRING 2019 – Pupil days	SUMMER 2019 – Pupil days	NEXT AUTUMN 2019 – Pupil days	NEXT SPRING 2020 – Pupil days
Term 3 07/01/2019 – 15/02/2019	Term 5 23/04/2019 – 24/05/2019	Term 1 04/09/2019 – 25/10/2019	Term 3 06/01/2020 – 14/02/2020
Term 4 25/02/2019 – 05/04/2019	Term 6 03/06/2019 – 19/07/2019	Term 2 04/10/2019 – 20/12/2019	Term 4 24/02/2020 – 03/04/2020



The Virtual Bookbag <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/virtual-bookbag/> is updated late on Friday. In it this week - • Northing this week!

### OLD NEWS

Year Six SATS There is a helpful YouTube video on the format of this year's Year 6 SATS tests here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2H2D1UI4pJE> which some may find helpful.

Here are other changes for which we are preparing!

2019: Reading + Maths Teacher Assessment removed at Year 6 SATS

2019: New standards replace P-Scale assessments 5-8 & interim Pre-Key-Stage Standards

2020: First national Reception Baseline Assessments implemented

2020: Year 4 take the first national Maths Tables Check

2020: 7 aspects of Communication and Language replace P-Scales 1-4

2020: First progress measures available for Year 6 (tracking from new Year 2 SATS)

2023: Removal Year 2 Teacher Assessments

2027: First progress measures available for Year 6 (tracking from Reception Baseline)

**READING IN THE MORNINGS** In the Parent's Survey a quarter of the respondents thought that reading in school might help address some of the barriers they find at home. Teachers have kindly agreed to open up their classrooms at 8:40 on a Wednesday morning to create space for parents, who accompany their children, to read together. Please feel that you can drop in! This offer is open to ALL children.

UPDATE This will usually be held in Classroom 1, but please check 'on the door'.

#### **NEWSLETTERS and GDPR**

We take your data privacy seriously, and for this reason we have not handed over your email addresses to MailChimp for distribution (though, with your consent, this is a possibility for the future). We are using our existing contact lists for circulation of the newsletter. You may, of course, choose to join the MailChimp list yourself, and supply your own contact details. Please read their Terms & Conditions carefully. There are implications for unsubscribing when the time comes to stop receiving these School Newsletters. If you have added yourself to MailChimp's lists, please follow their link to unsubscribe, otherwise, please follow the school's own link to contact our Administrator.

#### **ADDITIONAL FUND RAISING OPPORTUNITY**

FONNS have been given the opportunity of a free pitch at Berkeley Show this year, Sunday 23rd June 2019. We are wanting to get some ideas together of what we can do within the tent based around Children, possibly something crafty for children to come and enjoy and raise money for FONNS.

Please comment with any ideas and anyone able to come and help.