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Learning, Achievement, Faith & Fun!

NEWSLETTER 315

Friday 16th October 2020

SERVICE IS THIS TERM'S CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.

"Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon." Isaiah 58:10

Dear Parents and Friends,

OPEN DAY VIDEO

Our Open Day video is now available to view – see our website, our Facebook page and this page here!
<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/open-days/>

Obviously a video is 'second-best' to an actual tour, but in these days of limited opening, this is the best tool at our disposal to generate interest in our school for the September 2021 intake.



PLEASE SHARE THIS WIDELY – ON EVERY PLATFORM YOU CAN. (Every recognisable child in the video had been cleared for photography by their parents). Can someone share with the Dursley and Wotton Facebook groups? Nibley Parents?

If anyone would like a copy of the poster for a public-facing window, please ask.

YOUR SAFETY MATTERS

Children and adults should not be crossing the pavilion car park using the 'side' gate. There was another near miss this week. Children, please enter the playing fields with your adult using the main (double) gate from the path by the road.

READING RIGHT!

There was excellent 'attendance' at our online meeting supporting early reading. Thank you to Miss Allen for hosting this.

STAYING SAFE ONLINE – HELP FOR PARENTS!

National Online Safety release a weekly update called #wakeupwednesday, which often includes a free guide for parents on a single app, program or game. This site - <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>

includes the 'back issues' including Tellonym, Alexa, Overwatch, Roblox, Catfishing and many others. Well worth a visit (find out how much we don't know!)

LOCKDOWN PREPARATION

Schools now have a statutory duty to provide remote education.

“Where a pupil, class, group or small number of pupils need to self-isolate, or there is a local lockdown requiring pupils to remain at home, DfE expects schools to be able to immediately offer them access to remote education. Schools should ensure remote education, where needed, is high-quality and aligns as closely as possible with in-school provision.

The Secretary of State has given a temporary continuity direction in order to require schools to provide remote education for state-funded, school-age children unable to attend school due to coronavirus (COVID-19). This will come into effect from Thursday 22 October 2020.”

As you might expect, teachers are making additional preparations for any new lockdown. As part of this, we are asking ALL PARENTS to complete the following survey – Remote Education: Barriers To Education https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=h-Q3pwyCLkOPhvIVvzQ_DvqjBNO-02pGqWBXaGmVHV9UMUJPT1pIT0s4S1FPNEtXWIRQMFNTQzkxMy4u

Your answers will enable us to co-ordinate resources to help you if a second lockdown is put in place.

PARENT'S EVENINGS

The class teachers have been thinking carefully about parent evenings. The law requires us to hold at least one per school year, but we usually choose to hold 2 or 3 formal meetings with further meetings for children in specific circumstances. The Local Authority (LA) continues to advise against face-to-face meetings and I have decided (in common with other schools) to proceed on a phone-call basis. If you require a parent-teacher phone call, we will be sending out details shortly (and maintaining strict time limits), but given the extra work all staff are doing at the moment, we are urging that those without concern to not make appointments.

THE RETURN OF COOKED SCHOOL MEALS

Now that we are settling into the 'new normal', we are looking to re-establish cooked school meals as an option for all children. Obviously we are having to think carefully about the logistics, to prevent our bubbles mixing and maintain safe practices across the school. However, we are willing to try and these will be available to order from Tuesday 3rd November after half-term. (Monday is an INSET 'staff training' day.) Menus are being sent home and we begin on a **WEEK THREE.**

NEW POLICY FOR CONSULTATION

Schools are required to have a policy for “Children With Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School” Our

draft policy is available here - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/policies/>

ROTARY SHOE BOX COLLECTION

After last year's trial, we are happy to continue to support this Christmas charity. However, to ensure delivery in time these need to be back at school by 4th November! Please request a box from the office.

FREE MONEY! (RAISE MONEY FOR FONNS!)

Here's an idea which could raise a lot of money for the school, especially in the build up to CHRISTMAS – Amazon Smile. You can find all the information about using this FREE service on our website page here - -

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

Basically, if you nominate North Nibley School PTFA as your chosen charity, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price!



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

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

LONDON TRIP? The Pupil Premium can help with that.
SWIMMING LESSONS? The Pupil Premium can help with that.

IN-CLASS SUPPORT? The Pupil Premium can help with that.

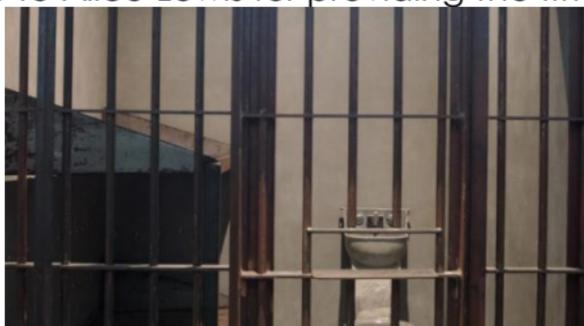
Children in ANY school year can benefit!

I understand that in these strange times many families are under financial stress. Last week I attached important information about the different types of 'Free School Meals' available. School is granted over £1000 for any child entitled (whether they take the actual meals or not!) and this goes to support your child in numerous ways (all 'invisible' to the child.) If there is even the smallest chance you may now qualify, I urge you to do what other families are doing, read the letter and find out.

WHAT WAS THAT 'GREEN SCREEN?'

Exactly that! A virtual background against which we can film children and staff, putting them in locations to support their topic work. Last Friday our Chair of Governors retold the story of Peter in Prison!

Thanks go to Alice Lewis for providing the fitted sheet.



CHRISTMAS ALREADY?

LAST WEEK I INVITED HOUSEHOLDS TO COLLABORATE ON CHRISTMAS WINDOWS.

Thank you to the two who have volunteered.

However, I need another 22 households to join in.

Last week I wrote... "Amidst the uncertainty, one plan is coming together! We are very much hoping you'll join with us in turning North Nibley into a Living Advent Calendar with windows throughout the village decorated and 'opened' each evening between 1 December and Christmas Eve. In order to ensure everyone knows their date in good time to plan, we need to be clear by 20th November that we have enough participants so we would be very grateful for VERY QUICK responses. You can see what has been done in another villages on this website -

<https://www.helmdonparishcouncil.gov.uk/advent-windows-archive.html>

If you:

- live in a house that has a window that can clearly be seen from the street without people coming on to your property
- are happy to keep the window illuminated each evening after it is 'opened' until after Christmas and
- are interested in participating or are prepared to act as a standby if we have problems recruiting enough people

please let me know (email

head@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk) with:

- your name and address
- your email address and
- any preference you have about dates

Please be aware that in agreeing to participate you are also agreeing to have your address identified on the website and map so people can look for your window. No names or email addresses will be shared without your permission. We look forward to hearing from you. Please let us know by 20th November.

CLASS DOJO 'PUSH' NOTIFICATIONS

Did last week's advice cure the problem for any of our families?

1. Double-check that push notifications are turned on, on the device (since they're receiving Class Story notifications this likely is not the culprit.)
2. Have them make sure they are staying logged in to their account when they close the app and don't sign out of their account completely
3. Delete/ reinstall the app
4. From there, if they are still having trouble, can you please have them reach out to us at hello@classdojo.com? We can then help them directly as push notification issues can be quite tricky from that point."

WORLD MATHS DAY 2020

Years 1 to 6 took part in World Maths Day on Thursday.



We learnt about different about (and calculated in) Chinese, Arabian, Swahili and Roman. number systems.

Have a great weekend,
Mr B