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Learning, **A**chievement, **F**aith & **F**un!

NEWSLETTER 304 – THE LOCKDOWN LETTERS

FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC - JUNE 2020

For the Archives: Day 90 to Day 96

Dear Parents and Friends,

DAILY UPDATE - DAY 90 – SATURDAY 20th JUNE

SONG – Creator God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GM4lVZuljEI>

(Please supervise pupil access to YouTube.)

AMAZING FRIENDS!

Thank you for coming to the rescue with your birthday wishes yesterday! If you've not yet caught up with the assembly, please scroll back to see what you missed. On Friday 26th we celebrate Martha's birthday. Her 'Birthday Blog' is open now.

YOUR 'NO's' MATTERS

Plenty of parents of Year R, 1 and 2 have yet to register their thoughts about returning. We are holding places open for Reception and Year 1, and in the process blocking options for children who are desperate to return. Reception parents especially, please indicate clearly one way or another, before Sunday at 6 p.m. This is for a return on Monday 29th, by which time some children will have been back in school for 4 weeks!

NEWSLETTER 290

Watch out for an emailed newsletter, or download yours from

<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/newletters/>

Take care,

Paul

DAILY UPDATE - DAY 91 – SUNDAY 21st JUNE

VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Understanding 'God The Father' – it's Father's Day!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZmUN3AmZKY>

(Please supervise pupil access to YouTube.)

SONG - Big Family of God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UEvJzOxm6zs>

An important song for our time – God Loves Everyone!

(Please supervise pupil access to YouTube.)

COMING BACK?

Don't forget we are a nut-free school. Those with home-made packed lunches must take this into

account when planning lunches. Thank you.

COMING BACK?

The deadline for parents for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have until 6 p.m. tonight to let us know if they are NOT coming back this term. (See <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/reopening-school/>) We can then carefully consider the potential for absorbing additional children into existing 'bubbles', where there are unfilled places. This is not likely to be an easy task. Our priorities include:
Reception and Year 1 first (Government-nominated year groups)
Siblings of those already back (to enable parents to return to work)
Teacher-knowledge of those who have struggled over the past few months.
Teacher-knowledge of those who might, for any one of a number of reasons, be considered vulnerable.

Parents should not assume that we make these choices lightly. Nor should you assume that you will be privy to the decision making behind each case. In order to make the offer we now have, staff are choosing to miss lunch breaks and contracted non-contact time. They are willing to undertake the risks that come from a child's inability to social distance, in order to support your children. They have repeatedly demonstrated going the extra-mile, when it seems safe to do so. Trust us to make the right decisions, even if they do not prove popular with everyone, and support this amazing team!

Have a great day,
Paul

DAILY UPDATE - DAY 92 – MONDAY 22th JUNE

ASSEMBLY - Bob Hartman – Jeremiah Buys a Field
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=zyduvdZjsKI&feature=emb_logo

SONG - In My Garden

A simple, feel-good and fun song about the process of planting and growing things.

<https://youtu.be/7PFiPEkgokg>

(Please supervise pupil access to YouTube.)

THANK YOU

Our thanks to all who completed the surveys regarding returning. We are now in a much stronger position to determine the shape' of school for the final weeks. I will be sending out the results of our deliberations by email. Critical workers (including Critical Workers in Year 5, for Thursday and Friday) can now book places for this group, for the week beginning 29th June, from this page:

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

Take care,
Paul

DAILY UPDATE - DAY 93 – TUESDAY 23rd JUNE

ASSEMBLY – courtesy of iSingPop. This week, a message about 'unity'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XCohDfNVWCQ&safe=true>

(Please supervise pupil access to YouTube.)

CHESSKID – FREE ACCESS

As a school that has been supported by Chess in Schools in the past, I am delighted to present a free opportunity for children at North Nibley. "ChessKid is an online chess learning and playing zone designed for ages 5-11. Children who have no prior knowledge of chess will be able to learn how to play the game. Those who already know how to play will be able to develop their skills and challenge their friends, while tracking their improvement.

Chess in Schools and Communities (CSC) is a charity that delivers chess activities to over 340 schools nationwide. They have offered free gold ChessKid accounts for your children to use at home (valid until 20th July 2020). To register for your account, simply click on the link below:

<https://www.chesskid.com/register/kid/group/GMB9Z1>

Your child's account will automatically sit in our school's ChessKid group. CSC will then be able to run chess competitions and activities among our children, and involve them in the tournaments and challenges they are running nationwide.

Please note: if you have more than one child you can use the link multiple times. A different adult email address will be required for each account."

Now you can learn to plan, and arrange games against other North Nibley children too!

FRIDAY

Don't forget to wish Martha a happy birthday over on Purple Mash.

BOOKINGS FOR THE 29th

Critical workers (including Critical Workers in Year 5, for Thursday and Friday) can now book places for this group, for the week beginning 29th June, from this page:

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

WIDER OPENING

A number of you have been in contact to ask about plans for the year groups that have not yet been invited back. Until such a time as the government relaxes the social distancing rules, we will be unable to admit more children. This is due to:

The lack of physical space remaining at school;

Our inability to spread available staff any further than we already dare;

Our unwillingness to close down the online support currently available to pupils from Year 2 to Year 5, for the sake of a single year group.

We are beginning to imagine how we might enjoy one-another's company in the last fortnight of the

school year, including 'on the field' meetings (again, socially distant until we are allowed otherwise) and potentially an online video conference. Until we know more, please continue to attend to the DAILY UPDATES on Class Dojo.

CLASS STRUCTURE, 2020-2021

Around this time, we usually invite parents of children in Reception to begin a dialogue with us about the 'best fit' for beginning the Year 1 curriculum – Class 1 or Class 2. This year we will be unable to meet with you in the same way. So we will be contacting each of you to outline our current thinking – based on the information available – and asking you to respond. Watch out for that email soon.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Mr B

DAILY UPDATE - DAY 94 – WEDNESDAY 24th JUNE

ASSEMBLY

More stories from those silly talking vegetables – it's VeggieTales!

King George And The Ducky (Based on the story of King David and Bathsheba) (Lessons in Selfishness not leading to happiness. Be considerate of others.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FtKffZ14DQ8>

(Please supervise pupil access to YouTube.)

SONG – You say. This song was popular last year – we even used it during our SIAMS inspection!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZvKJl1kK8g>

(Please supervise pupil access to YouTube.)

RE-JOINING SCHOOL?

Parents of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who completed the re-joining school? survey (with 'Yes please' requests) should check their email inboxes.

OLD QUIZ!

Isabella was the only child to get 10 out of 10! Well done.

NEW QUIZ

General Knowledge! Click here!

<https://forms.gle/YrnZuf7g6wmM6xyC9>

YOUTH SPORTS TRUST (YST)

The YST has put together a number of fun sporty activities which can be attempted at home. These challenges can be enjoyed for their own sake, or you can compete for Bronze, Silver or Gold standards! The simple-to-use sheets are attached, and we'd love to receive some photos of you at play.

YST has identified a number of concerns caused by lockdown, including Loss of functional capacity Suffering loneliness, social isolation and lack of belonging, Anxiety, bereavement, trauma or stress Inactivity (too much time indoors), Lack of motivation and confidence. The sports are aimed at supporting you with your children at home. Once again, can I urge you to contact the school if you recognise these

concerns emerging at home.

Take care,

Paul

DAILY UPDATE - DAY 95 – THURSDAY 25th JUNE

ASSEMBLY

The Arrival Of The Queen Of Sheba! (Generously giving our time). I host this week's Thursday Assembly. You can download it here – https://northnibley-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/head_northnibley_gloucs_sch_uk/EfBQxNGN1bxGnJHvCBg5HEsBDuJXbKk3KXEfrizHdCRb5w?e=8FgBdB

SONG - Nothing's Too Big

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8bsEgggn344>

And if you want to learn the actions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yopo6DvV9Z8>

(Please supervise pupil access to YouTube.)

REPORTS

Staff are fully into report writing now, so time is at a premium. (At least there's no Wimbledon to distract me!)

LAST CALL FOR BIRTHDAY WISHES

Were you planning to wish Martha a happy birthday? Do so here - <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/north-gl11>

BOOKINGS FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 29th

Critical workers (including Critical Workers in Year 5, for Thursday and Friday) need to book places for this group, for the week beginning 29th June, tonight before 6:00. This includes parents who have used this service before.

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

VIRTUAL ORCHESTRA!

Jules Miller, parent, music teacher and governor, writes:

“Calling all musicians, would you like to be part of the North Nibley Primary School Virtual Orchestra? It will be just one piece of music recorded and edited together (so no solos!) I have parts for most instruments and abilities. There are only a couple of weeks to get this recorded so let me know if you would like to get involved.”

CHESSKID

We have free access to ChessKid –

<https://www.chesskid.com/register/kid/group/GMB9Z1>

Your child's account will automatically sit in our school's ChessKid group. CSC will then be able to run chess competitions and activities among our children, and involve them in the tournaments and challenges they are running nationwide. Now you can learn to play, and arrange games against other North Nibley children too!

Take care,
Paul

DAILY UPDATE - DAY 96 – FRIDAY 26th JUNE

QUIZ –

HALF those attempting this week's quiz are getting full marks! Are you up to the challenge? Click here -

<https://forms.gle/YrnZuf7g6wmM6xyC9>



ASSEMBLY & SONG

Mrs Shepherd (and family) presents today's Open The Book – Jesus and the children.

Part 1 here - [https://northnibley-](https://northnibley-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/head_northnibley_gloucs_sch_uk/Eb7bTyh7ehNjDLeG-MwmlMB2y1-fOuLaS5EJCQDsxiwKQ?e=rBe5yU)

[my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/head_northnibley_gloucs_sch_uk/Eb7bTyh7ehNjDLeG-MwmlMB2y1-fOuLaS5EJCQDsxiwKQ?e=rBe5yU](https://northnibley-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/head_northnibley_gloucs_sch_uk/Eb7bTyh7ehNjDLeG-MwmlMB2y1-fOuLaS5EJCQDsxiwKQ?e=rBe5yU)

Part 2 will be delayed due to unexpected developments at school today.

ONLINE PUPIL SURVEY – LOCKDOWN EDITION

In collaboration with Gloucestershire County Council and researchers at the University of Oxford, our school has signed up to take part in the 'Online Pupil Survey - Lockdown Edition', which aims to monitor the well-being of school pupils during lockdown and to assess the impact of COVID-19 on mental wellbeing and learning.

Please read through the information letter for parents, there is more information about the survey on the research team's webpage, including Frequently Asked Questions

(<https://www.psych.ox.ac.uk/research/schoolmentalth>). You might also find it useful to watch the 3-minute video that we have recorded for children:

<https://youtu.be/gbwVdBuf1zA>

All pupils in Year 4 and above will be invited to take part in the survey unless you contact us to let us know you are not happy about this. If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please notify the school (admin@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk) before 2nd July.

BOOKINGS FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 6th JULY

Critical workers can now book places for this group, for the week beginning 6th July, from this page:

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

NEXT WEEK ...

we shall be more than half full. Do watch this space for information about how we intend to close out the year.

Have a great weekend. If you are not a weekend visitor to Class Dojo, don't forget to check back on Monday to see what you've missed!

Paul