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Learning, Achievement, Faith & Fun!

NEWSLETTER 333*

Friday 12th March 2021

COMPASSION IS THIS TERM'S CHRISTIAN VALUE IN FOCUS.

"This is what the Lord Almighty said: 'Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another.' " Zechariah 7:9-10

Dear Parents and Friends,



On behalf of the Governors (who provided this banner) and all the staff, "Welcome back!" We are all raring to go! My personal highlight of the first day was hearing our younger bubble echo 'Good morning Everybody!' as we began our

assembly. The morning drop-off seemed to work smoothly. Don't arrive too early – we aim to reduce congestion (mixing). We can receive your children any time between 8:40 and 9:00.

I DIDN'T KNOW I'D MISS... A POEM BY CLASSES 3 & 4.

I didn't know I'd miss the smell of my uniform, my cardigan brushing on my skin
I didn't know I'd miss putting on my squeaky black shoes
I didn't know I'd miss the thrill of anticipation as we drive to school
I didn't know I'd miss the sound of the school bell, and the chatter as we all line up
I didn't know I'd miss the smell of new class books, maths and English, learning together
I didn't know I'd miss searching through my drawer for a missing pencil
I didn't know I'd miss working hard or the discussions we have together
I didn't know I'd miss the buzz of the dinner hall and the smell of the lunch
I didn't know I'd miss the field with its long, shiny green grass
I didn't know I'd miss running the daily mile – even though I don't like running!
I didn't know I'd miss footsteps behind me, the sound of laughter next to me, or waving to my younger buddy on the other side of the playground
I didn't know I'd miss the teachers with their smiles.
Yes, these are the things I didn't know I'd miss.

WORLD BOOK DAY



Your photos were awesome and we so enjoyed seeing the efforts people had gone to, to celebrate the power of books. You can find the final edit of the videos on the book review site -

<https://northnibleschool.edublogs.org/>

Whilst there, why not listen to a story or poem read by our pupils and families, browse a book review or submit one of your own. An updated submission page can be found here -

<http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/book-review-index/>

BOOKS2AFRICA



MRS SHEPHERD WRITES "World Book Day is easy to celebrate here - we have an abundance of books to choose from, characters to dress as, potatoes to paint, chapters to read. But, what if our school had almost no books and our school was one room with one black painted wall and some chalk?"

Books2Africa is a charity that collects, collates and sends books to schools and libraries in Africa. Their goal is a million books a month. We contributed 6 boxes to this cause - the collection coincided with World Book Day. This, for me, was a powerful celebration of fighting poverty with educating the next generation through reading.

I encourage you to visit their website and get involved. <https://books2africa.org/>"

The Books2Africa website asserts it is "a UK charity that collects and sends donated books, computers and educational resources to increase the quality of education in Africa by helping individuals and communities to access, read, and understand books, and to extend the life and impact of books by decreasing book waste and increasing book 'readcycling' ". "

RED NOSE DAY

Friday 19th March is our next chance as a school to demonstrate generosity and compassion – two of our core values. We are asking children to wear red – as much as they can! – However, alongside many schools in the area, we are NOT allowing children to wear their red noses in school. Our Covid-19 Risk Assessments require us to discourage children



touching their faces. The potential to spread colds etc by wearing one another's noses is a risk we don't want to take. Why not paint your nose red instead?

We are also asking children to learn a joke for a massive – joke-a-thon, which I hope to video.

SUPERSTARS BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

A number of you will have heard that Superstars is unable to run until after Easter. Looking further ahead, it would be useful if Jon, the manager of the service, could draw on a bank of available (DBS-cleared) adults should a regular member become unavailable. Please tell me if you think you could help.

SWIMMING We are hoping to allow Class 3 some swimming lessons, following safety guidance from the pool and swimming association. Details to follow.

CLEAR OUT

We have 4 flat screen computer monitors of various sizes and ages. All still work. Please ask us if you think you can give a home to one of these.

PIN BOARDS

Amongst the turmoil of the lockdown, my notes on those who requested the last of the free pin boards has been lost. Please identify yourselves!

'NIBLEY GREEN' - Towards a greener world.

A return to 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!

Landfill sites are a major source of methane emissions in the UK. Reuse and recycle your waste and compost your food waste to reduce the rubbish destined for landfill sites. Start here:

www.recyclenow.com/home_composting If you don't have somewhere to compost then investigate alternatives with your local authority.

Some councils now collect food waste.

PREMISES UPDATE

Following the recent announcement of a grant in excess of £100,000 to replace the school's boiler and heating systems, comes other good news. Lighting throughout the school buildings (excluding the staffroom and Lodge) will also be replaced, bringing the standard in the corridors, offices, toilets, the hall and Classes 1 & 2 up to that currently enjoyed by Classes 3 & 4. Costs for this will in part be met by the energy savings projected over the life of the bulbs, which are low energy bulbs. Work on the lighting has to be completed by the end of March this year!

RECEPTION – Height, weight and vision checks
The Reception checks planned before Christmas will take place on Monday 15th March.

SCHOOL TEAMS – REBALANCING

Every 3 years or so, the cumulative effects of pupil movement (both in and out of the school) causes our school teams to become 'unbalanced'. This can be numerical across the school, or within individual year groups including boy/girl ratios. We usually rebalance the teams by moving a few children around (but keeping family groups together). We have decided that now is the time to do that, and have told the effected group. The teams also have a fresh new logo with which they can encourage one another and celebrate their achievements!



FONNS EASTER TREATS SALE

Watch out for the FONNS FLYER!



Stay well and have a great weekend.

* Newsletter 333 because the collated Daily Updates from lockdown form the 9 'missing' newsletters from January 8th until today. They are all available online here -

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