



Newnham News

Friday 17 March 2023

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Dear parents/carers,

Another week and another example of why teaching in a primary school is so endlessly varied. Although I often think that it would be nice to have a "normal" week, the reality is there is no such thing.

This week, along with all the usual learning, playtimes, interventions, teacher meetings, assemblies, clubs, lunches, phonics sessions, Year 3/4 performance rehearsals, swimming, to name a few, there has been:

Monday

- Whole school science morning
- Y5/6 went to a concert at West Road
- Hall stage light serviced by Mr Jach

Tuesday

- 7 members of staff completed their refresher first aid training
- A small leak from the roof
- Y5/6 took part in a football tournament on Tuesday afternoon

Wednesday

- The local authority (LA) maths advisor came in to lead some staff training

Thursday

- The LA school improvement advisor came for a visit
- Y2 and Y1/2 Forest School
- Our new parent governor came for a tour of the school (with her governor hat on)

Friday

- Red Nose day
- Reception Forest School
- the Cambridgeshire headteachers' conference

Busy, busy, busy! It definitely makes the weekend a welcome oasis. Speaking of which, I hope you all enjoy your own weekends,

Kind regards, Eddie Ferguson

Red Nose Day

Well done to everyone for their Red Nose turnout today – lots and lots of red outfits and crazy hair-do's for the Wacky Hair Parade and funny jokes for the joke competition, both held during assembly. We raised a brilliant £287.01 for this worthy charity event. Below is the film clip the children watched in assembly about Comic Relief's work.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=pWK2qVg1Yyc&feature=youtu.be>

Extra Curricular Clubs

Latin club finished this week. Next week is the last week for dance, pottery and cookery unless the club missed a session, in which case they may add one onto the last week of term. Please check with the club leader for confirmation. DT, Chinese, French, Basketball and Premier Sports clubs run to the end of term.

Science Week

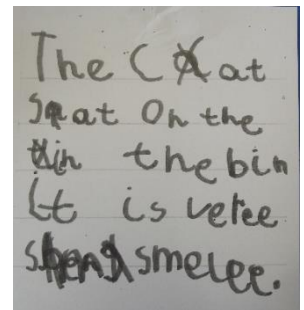
As it has been British Science Week this week, all the classes took part in science events. Below is a link to the annual Science Week poster competition that some children might like to enter.

<https://www.britishtscienceweek.org/plan-your-activities/poster-competition/>

Classroom news:

Reception

In Reception, we are of course at the beginning of our writing journeys. Each day we teach phonics and reading and also have adult directed writing sessions. It is wonderful then to see the Reception pupils writing out of choice, using the skills they have gained over time. With perfect timing for Comic Relief, Peregrine wrote her own joke: The cat sat on the bin, it is very smelly. Notice the brilliant use of a capital letter, self-correcting and a full stop at the end of the sentence. Most of all it is a very funny joke which she devised herself and wrote out for us all to enjoy.



Years 1 and 2

We've had a very busy week with lots of whole school collaborative activities and outdoor learning. The week started with whole school Science morning to celebrate British Science Week, where all the children experimented with marbling, chromatography and the egg drop challenge. Year 1/2 and Year 2 had Forest School and thankfully the weather remained nice and dry as they built a nest for a bird and created dragons. Year 1s will have their session next week. To end the week, the whole school celebrated Red Nose Day, by either wearing red or having a wacky hair-do to raise money for Comic Relief. In Maths, Year 1s have been looking at weight using scales to work out the weight of certain objects and to draw comparisons with other objects. Year 2 have been looking at division and working out how this is connected to multiplication. They also looked at word

problems and explored whether they were asking them to divide or multiply. In English, all classes have looked at the story *George and the Dragon* by Chris Wormell as part of their module on dragon stories. Year 1s labelled a dragon and then used adjectives to describe the different features of the dragon. Year 2s recapped noun phrases and the suffix -ful and used these to describe the dragon. In Geography, all classes chose a country within the UK and created a fact file, including information about the capital city and the name of the main river that runs through that country. Well done for a hardworking week Key Stage One.

For Year 2s, please find attached number bonds to 19 and spellings practised from sessions of Phonics.

Year 3

This week Year 3 have worked really hard on rehearsing for our school production. In English lessons, the children planned and started to write their own dragon stories. We focused on money in our Maths sessions. The children started the week by ordering and subtracting amounts in pounds and pence. Later on in the week, the children revisited how to multiply and divide by 10 and 100 and used this knowledge to solve word problems involving money. The children really enjoyed making their sandwich designs in DT and grading them based on their textures, appearance, smell and taste.

Year 4

We have had a brilliant time this week practising for our play with Year 3. We celebrated Science Week with a range of activities, including creating marbled paper with oil and ink and dropping eggs from a height without breaking them. In Geography, we explored how water is recycled again and again and is cleaned through filtration. We created our own filters for cleaning dirty water with some impressive results! In Maths, we have continued with our shape topic, this week looking at different 3D shapes and their properties.

Year 5

Year 5 enjoyed starting the week with Science morning, exploring colour mixing through marbling and chromatography and the challenge of keeping an egg intact if dropped from a height. In the afternoon they walked to West Road Concert Hall and were able to listen to the talented orchestra perform music from films. In lessons this week, Year 5 have been planning and writing their own stories from a faraway setting, focusing on vivid language to describe settings and atmosphere. In Maths we have been looking at the equivalence between decimals and fractions and have been multiplying whole numbers by fractions.

Year 6

This week in Year 6, we have been doing division and multiplication in Maths. In English, we are writing short stories with tension and suspense. For Computing, we are preparing stop motion films for a film festival. Last, but not least, in Art we are continuing our Henri Rousseau acrylic paintings. *By Elsa and Isabella*

School Meals

The menu next week will be Week 1 of the menu cycle (attached). The cost of a school meal is £2.50.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter, a copy of which can be found on our school website:

www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk.

Diary Dates

Y5 swimming.....	22 Mar
Cambridge Festival Y3 & Y6 am	22 Mar
Cambridge Festival Y4 & Y5 pm.....	22 Mar
Music Festival 3.20pm.....	24 Mar
Y6 Film Festival 6pm.....	24 Mar
Y3/4 performance for parents 2pm.....	28 Mar
Y3/4 performance for parents 5.30pm	29 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	29 Mar
Co-op/Y6 breakfast café 8.30am	31 Mar
Last day of term	31 Mar
First day of summer term.....	18 Apr

Sign up to play at the next music festival!

There is still time to sign up to play in the Music Festival next week Friday 24th March from 3.30pm in the school hall. We can't wait to hear the newly formed Newnham Croft Orchestra, as well as the many soloists that have already signed up. Full details here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/112bPF5eHIATKxXPYWBI3ukAkEW56HdT_k-V8nCFgqd4/edit?usp=sharing

PTA NEWS

Daffodil Day is coming! Join us on **Sunday 26th March, 11am - 3pm**, at the school to see the daffodils that our children and the gardening club planted, and enjoy the beautiful school grounds in the springtime. There will also be a tearoom serving food and drink, as well as crafts and activities to keep the children entertained while you enjoy a scone and cup of tea. The gardens are open to everyone, so bring a friend or a neighbour and there is free entry, with a suggested donation to our Garden Club.

As always with PTA events, we cannot put on events without volunteers and we are looking for a number of people to serve the food and man the gate. We also need donations of cakes and bakes to sell in our tearoom. Now is your chance to show off your inner Nigella and bring in a sponge cake, cupcake, tray bake or tart to help us raise money. Sign up on slottr: <https://www.slottr.com/sheets/18275646>. Thank you in advance for your support.

Community

Coton Cricket Club - Junior training

Coton Cricket Club will be starting summer training after Easter. Sessions focus on learning the skills of batting, throwing, catching and bowling in a fun environment. Older age groups play matches against other teams. Please register your interest now to ensure a place for training on Saturday mornings - available for girls and boys in years 1-6. Email Tom Smith at juniors@coton.cricket