



# Newnham News

Friday 25 March 2022

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

## Attachments

- Lunch menu
- Cambridge Literary Festival – children's book events

Dear Parents and Carers,

This afternoon saw the return of live performances to an inside audience at Newnham, and the Year 4 children did themselves proud with their Explorers play. It was a hugely enjoyable journey around the world, reflecting some of their learning from the term. Well done to Miss Sheridan, Mrs Banerjee and Mrs Onatskaia for putting together such a great play in about two weeks. That really must be some kind of world record!

This week we've also continued to raise funds for the Ukrainian Humanitarian Fund, and have now reached a total of £832.25. Thank you all for contributing to this important cause. Particular mention must go to Saffran who raised over £140 herself by holding a cake sale; truly brilliant work. On a similar note we also raised £128 for Comic Relief, so thank you all for your continued generosity.

There are a couple of upcoming events that I'd like to remind parents about. Firstly, on Monday 28 March there will be the open classrooms from 3.15 to 4.15pm around the school. Please take this time to take a look at your children's work, but also take a look around the corridors as well to see how the work in subjects develop for children as they move through the school. For those of you with younger children this might be the first time you've had this opportunity, and it would be nice for you to get a glimpse at how your child's learning will develop. On Tuesday 29 March Mr Ferguson will also be leading a Maths workshop on Reasoning in Maths, please see later in the newsletter for details.

We are currently advertising for a Lunchtime Supervisor post. Please see the full advert under the Staff section of the school website.

[http://www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk/web/lunchtime\\_supervisors/92681](http://www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk/web/lunchtime_supervisors/92681)

Finally, can I remind parents about the early morning drop off Reading Club. It runs from 8am to allow for children to be dropped off early and costs only £3 per day. Numbers have dropped recently and we could do with more parents using this facility in order to keep it financially viable going forwards. If you are interested, then please contact the school office for more details. This club does mean that the school gates are open from 8am to allow parents to take their children to this club. For parents not doing this, please stay

outside the grounds until at least 8.30am. The school gate is not manned until 8.40am and therefore parents are responsible for their own children until this time. This includes reminding the children to not use the school tree houses and climbing frames at this time.

## Maths Workshop 29 March at 1.30pm

Below is the Zoom link for the **Maths Workshop - reasoning and problem solving**. Due to the restrictions on Zoom, we will only have room for the first 100. However, we will record the session and share the link for those who miss the session.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89107926894?pwd=MEpTWWRBRTBkWXJoUDRpeEI3akI5UT09>

## Summer Music Festival Sign Up

All children who are learning a musical instrument (either at school or privately) are invited to play in next term's Music Festival, which will be held on **Friday 22 April 3.30-4.30pm**. The festival will take place IN PERSON. Please sign up by 19

April. [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wEgbqK-yY-q\\_Ce4BzSGGWmKhKoAJmhTbExixxTnypl/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wEgbqK-yY-q_Ce4BzSGGWmKhKoAJmhTbExixxTnypl/edit?usp=sharing)

Any questions, please email Dani [dani@meephophone.com](mailto:dani@meephophone.com)

## Classroom News:

### Reception

In Maths this week, we have changed our focus to look at 3D shapes and their properties. We learnt to recognise and name a cube, a cuboid, a sphere, a cylinder, a cone and a pyramid. We looked at the difference between 2D and 3D shapes, using terms such as 'faces' to describe them. The children really enjoyed finding out about the jobs their parents do and thought about what they might like to do when they are adults. Edie would like to be a train driver or work with her Dad; Adalia would like to be a gymnast and Ivo would like to be a doctor. In phonics we have been learning to write both upper-case and lower-case letters, and now know that names and each sentence should start with an upper-case letter.

### Year 1

In Year 1 this week, we have been enjoying completing our animal finger puppets (see the photos of the lovely characters below). We have also been trying very hard to complete maths and reading assessments. In Geography we have looked at the Equator in more detail and in Science we have continued to classify animals according to what they eat and have used this information in our English non-fiction writing.



#### **Class 1/2N and 1/2C**

In Maths, Year 1 have been learning more about making equal groups and arrays with a focus on explaining their understanding. They also learnt that arrays can represent repeated addition and practised counting in 10s, 5s and 2s again. Year 1 finished the week by exploring capacity and volume. Year 2 started the week answering questions on pictograms and block diagrams using the vocabulary 'more than' and 'fewer than'. They ended the week looking at problems using directional language (up, down, left and right) and turns (half turns, quarter turns, whole turns) clockwise and anticlockwise. In phonics, Year 1 have been learning how to spell words using the alternative 's/st' sound (listen, castle, Christmas). In spelling, Year 2s have focused on words where the 's' makes a 'zh' sound (treasure, measure, television). In Science, we have continued to sort animals into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, this week using Venn diagrams. In English, we have written a fact sheet about animals with our facts organised into different sections. In Art, we are relief printing (the process of carving patterns into a 'block') using a blunt pencil and polystyrene. Thank you for your continued support with your child's daily reading at home and spelling and number facts practise. Please remember to send your child's reading record log book and reading books in every Friday.

#### **Year 3**

This week Year 3 have been creating their prototypes for their mechanical posters. The class spent the week using strips of card and split pins to create levers and leverages to be added to their posters to make them more inventive. The use of the levers and leverages will make their posters look really exciting and the intention is that they will inspire and encourage others to be more environmentally friendly. One child created a hand, that when the levers is pulled the hand places rubbish in a bin. Year 3 are looking forward to creating their final mechanical posters next week. In English, we've been working on descriptive language with the use of a thesaurus to explore synonyms and the class wrote an opening for a story based on our class reader, The Firework Maker's Daughter. In Maths, Year 3 have been working on fractions, unit and non-unit fractions of whole amounts. Year 3 learnt that non unit fractions involve working out the unit fraction of an amount first and then multiplying the amount by the numerator of the non-unit fraction. Lastly in Geography, we learnt about the International Space Station and the class enjoyed learning about how they'd prepare and adapt to spending time there. Well done for a hard working week Year 3.

#### **Year 4**

This week, Year 4 have been using compact, column addition in Maths to add three 2-digit numbers and four 2-digit numbers efficiently. In English, we have been working on multiple different skills, such as speaking and listening within our performance of our school play, find and using apostrophes for possession, and using inference skills with our class book, The Nowhere Emporium. Within our topic of Explorers, the class have ventured beyond earth, and have been learning about what life is like on the International Space Station!

#### **Year 5**

Year 5 started the week with some end of term assessments. They worked hard to show the progress they have made in Reading, Writing and Maths. In history, they learned about a famous queen from the Shang dynasty and wrote a letter to future generations explaining her prominence. On Friday, the children spent some of the morning solving problems involving fractions and reasoning, and then had Forest Schools in the Wildlife area, which was a lovely end to the week.

#### **Year 6**

This week as usual, Year 6 have had a fun time, as well as learning lots of new, useful skills. We have been having our last practise SATs tests, and the improvement has been huge. Now more people are finishing their tests as well as being more confident. In Art, we've been sketching people from the painting Stormy Seas, which many enjoyed. Also, in English, we've been doing independent writing based on a picture. Finally, and most important of all, we've been filming our dances which we have been working on the whole term.

*By Farouq*

### **School Meals**

Next week will be the week 3 menu of the three week cycle (attached). The cost of a school meal is £2.40.

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](http://www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk)

Yours faithfully,  
Andy Matthews, Headteacher

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### **Cambridge Literary Festival**

See the attached flyer for further information on children's book events at the festival.

**Brownies for girls aged 7 to 10** meet on Mondays at the Scout and Guide Centre on the school site. We have a small and growing unit and are looking for some more girls to join us. We're inviting those who might like to start Brownies next term and would like to find out more to come along for a taster meeting on Monday 28th March at 6pm. If you are interested, please email Clare, the Brownie leader:  
[30thcambridgebrownies@gmail.com](mailto:30thcambridgebrownies@gmail.com).

**The Newcroft club still has some spaces remaining for our Easter Holiday club** which is held in the Community room and school grounds. We are open throughout the holidays from 08.45am - 5.45pm.(half day options available)

All children aged 4-11 years old are welcome whether they attend Newnham Croft or other schools in the wider community. We provide a safe space supervised by qualified and experienced playworkers where children can relax, enjoy plenty of child-led free play opportunities with friends, meet and make new friends - and join in with our daily art and craft and cooking activities if they wish. For more details and to book a space please contact Maureen:

Email: [thenewcroftclub@gmail.com](mailto:thenewcroftclub@gmail.com)

Phone:07812 798195

[www.thenewcroftclub.co.uk](http://www.thenewcroftclub.co.uk)