



Newnham News

Friday 22 April 2022

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

Attachments

- Lunch menu
- Letter from LA
- Connected Lives – parenting groups

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term. Hopefully you will have also received the new term's curriculum letter from your class teachers today, explaining all the things the children can look forward to learning about this term. We are all looking forward to having a truly normal term and I know that the teachers are excited to enjoy some great experiences with your children.

I'd like to thank all of you parent volunteers who came in over Easter to help us in our revamping of the Reception outdoor area. The results of your work are incredible, and together with all the brilliant new structures built by Mr Jach, have created a truly wonderful learning environment for the children. The pictures below show you what a great space this now is.



I'd also like to flag up the next PTA meeting (AGM), which will be on Thursday 28 April at 8pm in the Red Lion pub (see the PTA section later). Please come along to help the PTA in arranging all the lovely events that the support the school normally in a summer term. This will include a Summer Fair

again this year, which will happen in early July (final date and times are yet to be confirmed). Events such as this are an integral part of the school year, but only really happen with the hard work of a group of people in the PTA. Please come along and add your enthusiasm to the team.

The PTA treat stall will be returning in the weeks ahead and dates for when classes can enjoy this will be sent out soon.

I also need to draw your attention to the attached letter from the Local Authority regarding Living with Covid. I sincerely hope that this is the last time I need to make reference to Covid in a newsletter. I think the attached letter explains clearly how we will live with the virus for the remainder of this academic year.

As the weather is getting warmer, can I remind parents that the children are more likely to lose items of clothing during the day, such as coats and jumpers. We are already seeing an increasing number of items in the lost property hooks in the lost property shed. Please take a few minutes to check this space for any lost items. We are hopeful that we will be able to keep on top of the number of items in lost property this year, which will help parents in finding items and avoid the large number of items that we have needed to recycle in years gone by.

I've a small request next, which someone can hopefully help us with. Our Year 3 children have their Bikeability sessions starting on 16 May. We have a couple of children without bikes and we would be really grateful if a parent could lend us an age-appropriate bike for that week if you have one spare. If these have stabilisers that would also be helpful but not essential.

Finally, I also need to make you aware of some footway works taking place on Granchester Street between 27-30 April 2022. Pathways on this road will be closed for resurfacing in tarmac and temporary footpaths put in place during this time. This will also impact on residential parking in the area and limit the width of this main access road to the school during these days. Please keep this in mind when travelling to the school, and if you drive please be aware that you might be best arriving a little earlier and parking at Lammas Land (or another location away from the school) and walking the rest of the way.

Classroom News:

Reception

It has been wonderful to have the children back after the Spring break and we have jumped straight into our new topic of The Wonderful Outside, by reading our new class book Aaargh Spider, by Lydia Monks. The children wrote about their own or desired pets and also discussed their thoughts on the book. In Maths we have been looking at the numbers 11-20 and understanding what these numbers are composed of. For example, we know that 13 is made up of 1 ten and 3 more and that 20 is made up of 2 tens. The children are really enjoying the addition of our fantastic new sandpit built by Mr Jach and funded by the PTA and would like to say a huge thank you to all involved.



Year 1

Year 1 have had a great start to the summer term and our topic Summer Garden. They have enjoyed hearing the story Eat Your Peas and have talked about what vegetables they like and don't like, and have also written some great vegetable riddles. In Maths we have been looking at whole and halves of shapes. In PE, we are looking at ball skills this term and had had a lovely outside session learning to dribble a football and keep it under control. In Geography, we are learning to use a compass to find north, east, south and west. In Art this week we have been looking at Georgia O'Keeffe and her flower paintings. In Science we are labelling the parts of plants.

Class 1/2N and 1/2C

Year 1 and 2 have had a busy time this week and have started to be inspired by our new topic The Summer Garden. In Science, the children labelled the parts of a plant and described what their different functions are. In art, they looked at some work by Vincent Van Gogh and Georgia O'Keeffe and described how the paintings make them feel. In English, the children enjoyed reading Eat Your Peas by Kes Gray and Nick Sharratt and creating riddles about different types of vegetables. In Maths, Year 1 have been learning about fractions including finding half of shapes and how to make a half and a whole. They also recapped recognising

coins and notes. Year 2 have focused on problem solving involving money that included using bar modelling to help them find out how much change they were owed. In phonics, Year 1 have continued to practise sounding out and blending the sounds they already know, as well as learning the alternative pronunciation for 'y' (e.g. 'ee' as in funny), 'i' (as in pyramid), 'ie' (as in by), as well as the alternative spellings for ee 'y'/'ey' at the end of words (e.g. funny, mummy, monkey, money) and 'ee'/'ea' in the middle of words (e.g. team, been). In grammar lessons, the Year 2s have worked on recognising what an expanded noun phrase is (e.g. the beautiful lake, the muddy, wet field) and writing sentences containing them. 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 to school every Friday.

Year 3

Welcome back Year 3, to a very sunny and warm Newnham Croft. It's been so lovely to be reunited with the class and to hear about their delightful Easter breaks. We've spent quite a bit of this week discussing and exploring our new topic of Inventors and Inventions. In History, Year 3 learnt about the physicist Marie Curie. The class discovered how her scientific work made huge contributions towards treatments for cancer. In Science, Year 3 made posters or leaflets on the 7 life processes through the use of Mrs Nerg. In English, we've been exploring diary entries and their features. The class then had a go at writing their own based on a day from their Easter holidays or they chose a character from a favourite piece of fiction and wrote a diary entry from their point of view. In Maths, we've started exploring 4-digit numbers and Year 3 have been building on their place value by using addition number sentences to work out the different values of each 4 digit number. Well done for a hardworking, first week back.

Year 4

During the first week of the summer term, Year 4 have started our new topic Inventions and Inventors. In our first lesson, we have been learning about the life of Marie Curie, and how she has impacted modern medicine with her research in radiation to create x-ray machines. In English, we have been learning about the features of diary entries, writing in the first person, from a character's point of view. In Maths, we have been learning how to multiply 3-digit numbers using the grid method. Year 4 are very excited to start our swimming lessons next week. We will need to leave promptly after the second bell to arrive at The Leys for 9.15, so please ensure you send children straight into the classroom as they arrive! Thank you.

Year 5

This week, Year 5 has been introduced to the new Geography topic - Trade and Economics. We started off by playing a trading game which introduced us to the idea of exchanging something that our group had a lot of for something we needed. After half of the session, we had learnt which resources were essential (and therefore valuable) and had developed an idea of the cost each group was happy to pay

for them. In Maths, we have been looking at decimal numbers, investigating how often the digit 9 appears in 2-place decimals between 1 and 10. In PE, we had started learning about tennis and had a boot camp session.

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been (as usual) juggling a plethora of activities, including revising for their upcoming SATs tests, 3D drawing in computing, trade and economics for Geography and tennis in PE. We are also planning for an upcoming project of a one-time pop-up restaurant for Year 6 families on 20 May, that requires booking. Further details to follow. And, as a last mention, today is Earth Day. *By Nadav*

School Meals

Next week will be the week 2 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

Yours faithfully,
Andy Matthews, Headteacher

COMMUNITY NEWS

Connected Lives – parenting groups

Details of the eight-week parenting group can be found in the attached flyer.

Could you help keep a much-loved children's pool open?

Sheep's Green Learner Pool is a free pool for children in Newnham and is looking to recruit paid poolside assistants for the summer. The position is ideal for students or others looking for a flexible, part time job, especially if you enjoy being around children but also don't mind your own company on quiet days! More details can be found here

<https://sheepsgreen.wordpress.com/blog/>

PTA AGM

Come along to the next PTA meeting on Thursday 28th April, 8pm *in person* at the Red Bull pub function room or listen in on Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5256263546?pwd=WGFOb0x6N2hRWlpDbjZUU3FwelZuQT09>

Meeting ID: 525 626 3546

Passcode: 7nkKmA

This meeting will focus on electing committee members for the next academic year as well as planning the upcoming Summer Fair, so if you were thinking of getting involved, now is the time! Everyone is invited and welcome to come along, have a drink and chat about upcoming school events and activities.

Hope to see you there!