

Newnham Croft Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr E Ferguson



Tuesday 6 January 2026

Spring term – Year 4

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a safe and enjoyable break. This term we will be starting a new topic based on *Who lives in Antarctica?* You will find a breakdown of the skills and areas of the curriculum the children will be covering on the topic overview that can be found on the school's website in the coming days. If you are an expert in this area and would like to come into school and share your knowledge with the children please speak to me before or after school. We would also appreciate any books or resources you may have to help us make the topic as interesting as possible.

Start and End of the Day

The bell for the start of the day will continue to be rung at 8.45am and the children will be asked to line up quietly in their class groups. At the same time the adults who had accompanied their children should leave the playground. The second bell will then go and the children will be led into school by their class teacher. The children will be sent to the front playground for collection at 3.15pm. We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child arrives promptly for the start of the school day as this avoids disruptions. If your child is late, please sign them in at the office.

School lunches

The school dinner menu is displayed in the school kitchen window and emailed with the weekly newsletter. It is also on the school website. You may prefer instead to send your child in with a packed lunch which needs to be placed on the trolleys in the playground at the start of the school day.

Snacks and Water Bottles

Healthy snacks can be supplied from home if you desire your child to have one at break times. We would be grateful if you could continue to send your child's labelled water bottle to school each day. Drinking water regularly during the day obviously helps to keep them fully hydrated.

PE times and Active Wear

Our PE slots for this term continue to be on Thursday and Friday. Please can you ensure that your child has suitable clothing and footwear (in line with the school's active wear policy) not just on these days but for the whole of the week as PE times may change due to unforeseen circumstances. Active wear means: Clothes and footwear comfortable and appropriate for physical activity (not sandals or heavy boots).

PPA Cover

PPA will be covered on Thursday afternoons by Mrs Onatskaia (Music) and Premier Sports (P.E) in order for us to be able to carry out planning, preparation and assessment activities.

Forest Schools and Outdoor Classroom

Year 4 have a Forest School session on the morning of Friday 6th February. We ask that you provide a waterproof coat, trousers and wellies on these days but also ensure that your child is suitably dressed on other school days so that we can enjoy the outside space around the school, whatever the weather.

Reading

We hope you have enjoyed listening to your child reading over the holidays. It is vital to stimulate a love of reading at this age and to nurture an ability to discuss what they have comprehended.

Listening to your child read daily is highly recommended. Your child will continue to have the opportunity to select a new reading book they wish to take home in register time each day. We always encourage the children to select broad selection of books that encompass a wide selection of different genres. We would encourage you to listen to your child read for around 10-15minutes a day and to discuss afterwards what they have recalled.

Times Tables

We are looking ahead to the MTC (multiplication tables check) in June which tests all the times tables up to 12×12 . Well done for all the practise everyone has done so far. Keep practising and using 'Times Tables Rockstars' to help know which ones to learn and to use a time limit.

School Trip

We are hoping to organise a trip that is connected to our topic at some point during the term. Details of this will be sent out nearer the time.

Performance

In the second half of the term Year 3 and 4 will be doing a joint performance for parents and carers. We will inform you of the arrangements in due course.

Spellings

Each Friday a list of spellings will be sent home for your child to practise. You may wish to dictate sentences that contain some of these words and get your child to think about the punctuation they might need to include.

Open Afternoon and Parents Consultations

You will have the opportunity to share your child's learning after school on Monday 2nd March between 3.15- 4.15pm.

Parent consultations will take place the following week on Monday 9th March between 3.30 - 6.00pm and on Tuesday 10th March between 1.30 -5.00pm.

Communication

If you wish to talk to us regarding any aspect of your child's schooling please feel free to briefly chat to me at the start or end of the school day or email the school office and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

Kindest Regards,
Mrs Kivisild and Mrs Cullen

(Class Teachers)