



Newnham News

Friday 19 November 2021

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

Attachments

- Lunch menu

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although we still have no new Covid cases to report to you from within school, I am aware that there are cases in the wider community and in families linked to the school. We will keep vigilant and report any cases to you as they appear.

Thank you all so much for supporting our Children in Need fundraiser this morning, we raised £302.19 in total from the café and donations. This is a great amount towards a superb cause, so thank you all for your generosity. *

Can I please remind all parents that the school day starts at 8.50am for the children. We have quite a few families currently arriving between 8.50 and 9am, which does mean that the children's classes can be late starting in the morning. We have a tight timetable in the mornings, with lots of teaching sessions, assemblies etc to fit in, and a 5 to 10 minute delay can really put pressure on delivering the curriculum for the children in the time that we have available. Please leave in enough time to ensure that your child is on the playground between 8.40 and 8.50am each morning.

As it is getting colder, we are now monitoring the CO2 levels in classrooms and trying to balance the warmth for the children against the risks of Covid transmission in areas of high CO2 levels. We will however still be keeping windows open and an airflow through the classrooms, so children will need coats and warm clothing in school during the winter months.

Have a lovely weekend and please take note of the PTA section of this newsletter for all things festive!

* The Year 6 breakfast cafe raised £172.30 for Children in Need this morning. We are very sorry that we ran out of pastries - this has never happened before! Thank you to Ms Noble, for giving Year 6 the opportunity to raise so much money for a great charity.

Classroom Round-up:

Reception

Linked to our current class focus book, Ruby's Worry, the class wrote a joint letter to Ruby to help with ideas of what she could do with her worry. We agreed that the best thing to do about a worry, is not to ignore it but to talk about it. In Maths we have once again been looking at counting a number of

objects accurately. Taye had the idea of separating the objects when counting and Teagan suggested moving the object you have counted to the side. Both great ideas! In Phonics we learnt the new phonemes 'h, b, f, ff' and the tricky word 'the'. We had a very exciting trip to Maison Clement Bakery on Thursday morning. Clement showed us around the baking area and the croissants looked amazing. We are now building our own bakery role play area in our classroom.

Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have been learning about pirates and have labelled the different parts of a pirate ship. In Maths, we have been identifying coins and notes. If you are heading to the shops this weekend, it would be great if you would let your child handle and use real coins. In Art, we have been colour mixing and in DT we have been learning to use a saw. We have also started to use the Bee-bots and have been learning how to give them algorithms.

Class 1/2N & 1/2C

In Maths this week, Year 1s have been learning about money. They have learnt to recognise coins and notes and have used them to practise counting. The Year 2s have been learning how to make totals in different ways and make comparisons using the <> and = signs. In Science, we identified the suitability of certain materials for their uses (for example we discussed what shoes could be made of and why). In English, we worked on some non-fiction writing and punctuation (using a question mark) by writing questions about what we would like to learn about pirates, as well as learning some topic vocabulary when we labelled the different parts of a pirate ship. In Phonics, Year 1s have been learning to read and write the /zh/ 's' sound (as in usual, treasure and television) and the split digraphs 'i_e', 'o_e', 'u_e' (slide, home, flute, cube). Year 2s have worked on a number of spelling and grammar rules including words ending in -il and -al (pencil, fossil, animal, hospital). It would be great if you could help your child spot some words containing these sounds and spellings in their reading. In DT, we started practising using cutting equipment safely using a saw and mitre block. Any children who haven't used the saws yet, will be doing this next week. In Computing, we have been learning to give a Bee-bot an algorithm. Well done everyone for a very hard working week!

Rec/KS1 Christmas celebration We are pleased to announce that the Rec/KS1 Christmas celebration will be on 14 December at 3.30pm. The event will be held outside with parents invited to attend. More details to follow shortly.

Year 3

This week, Year 3 were very lucky to be able to attend the Sport's Festival at Parker's Piece, hosted by Parkside school. The class had the opportunity to take part in lots of different sporting activities such as football, running, throwing and catching. I was so impressed with how well Year 3 listened and joined in with every sport. Thank you so much to all the parent helpers who walked with us and assisted at the event. As part of our topic, Year 3 have been exploring Egyptian gods and comparing them to Greek gods. Their favourite gods were Ra, Anubis and Thoth. They discovered that both ancient civilisations believed in gods of war and the afterlife. In English, the class have been continuing to read the fairy tale, The Wizard of Oz. They discussed how fairy tales tend to follow a similar theme of a child being the main protagonist who has to go on a journey and the antagonist tends to be a witch or a creature. The class answered retrieval questions on the opening chapter and described one of the characters they've been introduced to such as Dorothy or Auntie Em. Year 3 used lots of ambitious adjectives and some of the class even chose to use subordinating conjunctions. In Maths, we've been looking at time and the class learnt about intervals of 5 minutes, "past" and "to" the hour and converting a 12 hour clock to a 24 hour clock. Well done Year 3 for an excellent week.

Year 4

In Maths this week Year 4 have continued their work on division and thought about more compact written methods to use. Our new English unit is about Mr Stink by David Walliams and we have been enjoying the opening chapters and comparing the themes and conventions in the text to other books we have read collectively. The class have enjoyed learning more about the Ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses and have started to learn about key figures. Our new Science unit focuses on light and Year 4 enjoyed making colour spinners before investigating the way in which light travels.

Year 5

In Year 5 this week, in Science we have investigated how the length of a shadow changes with the proximity of an object to a light source. In our topic, we have been using atlases to cross-reference place names from Ancient Greece with a modern map of the Mediterranean and thinking about what might have been traded at the time. In Maths, we have been looking at rounding numbers (including decimals) in order to develop our ability to use estimating and have continued our work on angles, becoming more confident at using a protractor and being able to apply our knowledge of angles to find missing angles in shapes. We have spent time discussing anti-bullying, the importance of being kind and what to do if we are worried.

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been attending Bikeability, a 4-day bike safety course: teaching to stay safe on two wheels. This week, Year 6 have decided to have a 50 star treat (a movie

with PJs and hotdogs) which happened today. On top of all that, Year 6 have been juggling an assortment of other activities including: division and fractions in Maths; in History, we debated about the probability of the lost city of Atlantis ever existing; for English, we have been continuing Clockwork and have met Sir Ironsoul (a tin piece of clockwork with a razor sharp sword, who is 'so perfectly balanced' that one word only will stop him on a path to murder and only one tune alone will set him at ease, and, finally Year 6 have been practising their accuracy in football for physical education.
By Alex and Nadav

Also, this week, four of our Year 6 children took part in the Year 6 English Challenge (an online competition against other schools). The Year 6 adults were incredibly impressed with the group who came 3rd out of 17 schools. I was especially happy that they got full marks in the SPaG round! *Ms Holliday*

School Meals

The new four-weekly school lunch menu is attached. Next week will be the week 1 menu. 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

PTA NEWS

Christmas Trees

The PTA are really pleased to be selling wonderfully-fresh, locally grown Christmas trees again this year. Order forms should have come home this week. If you haven't already received yours, don't worry! Full details and the ordering form are also available here www.bit.ly/NewnhamTree. Trees can be collected from school on Friday 3 December and Saturday 4 Dec. We are also offering **contact-free delivery** again this year if you live within 1 mile of the school. **Orders need to be received by 26 November (midnight cut-off)**, but early orders are really appreciated. If you have any questions about trees please email Dani on dani@meeprophone.com.



Community News

Cambridge Science Centre Gallery

There is a Cambridge Science Centre Gallery opened upstairs in the Grand Arcade, opposite the Raspberry Pi shop. Free entry. Open every day until 21st December. Really fun, with hands on activities for children and young people (I witnessed grandparents interacting too!).