

# Newnham Croft Primary School

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5 January 2023

## Spring term at Newnham Croft – Key Stage One

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back to the spring term to a new year at Newnham Croft Primary School. We hope that you've all had a very restful winter break. A huge thank you, to you all for the kind and generous Christmas and gift cards that were given to the Key Stage One team. They were much appreciated by all, so thank you.

### As a reminder

Just to remind everyone, the bell for the start of the day will be rung at **8.45am** and the children will be asked to line up in the playground, where they will be taken into the class by their class teacher.

One bell will ring at **8.40am** to signal that it's time for the children to line up and say goodbye to their parents. Then another bell will ring to signal the start of school. All children will continue to line up just outside the Year 4 classroom as they had done last term, where their teacher will greet them. In addition to this, the end of the school day will remain at **3.15pm** where you will still be expected to collect them.

We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child arrives promptly for the start of the school day as this avoids disruptions and if they could also be collected on time. If your child is late at the beginning of the school day, please sign them in at the office.

### First Spring Topic

KSI shall begin the spring term by focusing on the topic, 'Amazing Animals.' This science topic is designed to teach the children about the names and types of different animals from around the world. Children will be identifying and classifying animals by their animal type and they will be using their observational skills to look at different birds, minibeasts and insects. In English, the children will be writing letters and recounts connected to this topic. In DT, all children will be making animal puppets, using joining techniques such as stitching and glueing.

### Items Required for School

Children will need to bring a school coat, a bag containing packed lunch if they are having a packed lunch and a labelled water bottle to keep themselves hydrated during the school day. There will be no need for pencil cases or any other items from home as these will be provided at school.

### Active Wear and PE (Physical Education)

All children will be expected to come to school wearing activewear. This includes, trainers, leggings/ comfortable trousers, t-shirt/ long sleeved t-shirt (suitable clothing which allow the children to exercise and run around), and appropriate for any PE lesson. Boots and sandals are not active wear, instead trainers should be worn. It is essential that if your child is not wearing the correct clothing for PE that they have appropriate clothing with them on the days that we have PE. Hair will need to be tied up and no jewellery should be worn at school, not just in sessions of PE.

### **Early Morning Activities**

Each morning the children will have an activity to complete as they arrive at school. This generally reinforces a concept in Maths, Reading or English. This ensures a calm, purposeful start to the day. If you wish to speak to your class teacher to discuss any issues relating to your child's school life, please feel free to email them or the office.

### **Tuesday Afternoons**

Tuesday afternoons, class teachers will be out of class planning and preparing lessons. On these afternoons Premier Sports teachers shall be teaching PE (Physical Education); Mrs Onatskaia will be teaching Music; and Mrs Marroncelli will be teaching RE on a three week rotation.

### **Reading**

We shall continue talking to the children about the importance of reading at home on a daily basis. It is really important that your child reads to you for at least ten minutes a day as well as discussing the book and being read to; and enjoying stories for pleasure. We shall continue to exchange library books once a week, so please ensure that books are brought back once read on the day that your class teacher has agreed. E-books will still be placed on the Big Cat reading portal weekly. Please continue to read these with your child. Children will still have the opportunity to take books out of the library, but may we remind all children that when they are finished with reading them, they must bring them back on Friday to be changed.

### **Whole School Open Afternoon**

In preparation for Parent Consultations, parents will have the opportunity to come into their child's classroom and look through their work (books) to see what they have been learning about. This will take place on

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February from 3.15pm to 4pm.**

### **Parent Consultations**

Parent consultations will be the **week of the 12<sup>th</sup> February**, details for how to book a consultation with your teacher will be released nearer the time.

### **Snacks and Water Bottles**

Snacks are provided for playtime (fruit or vegetable). Please continue to send a labelled bottle of water each day. Drinking water throughout the day helps to keep children well hydrated.

### **Forest School**

Forest School sessions will take place next half term and the dates for each class can be found below:

Year 1 (Miss Wakelen) - the morning of **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

Year 1 / 2 (Mrs Markham) - the morning of **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**

Year 2 (Miss Harvey) -the morning of **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

### **Religious Education**

The children will be finding out about special religious occasions and how people celebrate them. If you would like to come in and talk to the children about the celebrations in your home, please contact your class teacher.

### **Communication**

If you wish to talk to your class teacher regarding any aspect of your child's schooling please feel free to briefly chat to us 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.

Thank you for your support in making such a positive and happy start for your children in this new school year.  
We look forward to a happy half term ahead.

With best wishes

The Key Stage One Team

Miss Wakelen – Year 1 class teacher

Mrs Markham – Year 1/2 class teacher

Miss Harvey – Year 2 class teacher