



# Newnham News

Friday 8 March 2024

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

- [Topic overviews](#)
- [Home learning ideas](#)
- [NET donation link](#)

Dear parents/carers,

A wonderful World Book Day on Thursday (read more below). It was so lovely to see so many different books being celebrated and to hear the children speak so enthusiastically about their favourite stories.

If there is only one thing that you have time for with your children at home - read, read, read! Listen to them read, talk about books and remember to read to them as well.

The routine of a bedtime story can last right up to Year 6. In our increasingly screen led world, the imaginary worlds that books create, not to mention the shared time, is incredibly precious.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards  
Edward Ferguson

## Diary Dates

Eat lunch with your Reception child	11 Mar, 11.55am
Year 5 swimming (every Wed this half term)	13 Mar
<i>Bring pyjamas for water safety lesson</i>	
Eat lunch with your Reception child	13 Mar, 11.55am
Red Nose Day Bake Sale	15 Mar
Forest school Year 6	15 Mar, morning
Forest school Reception	15 Mar, afternoon
PTA Daffodil Day	17 Mar, 12pm - 3pm

Please check the school calendar on our website, which is updated regularly.

**Our language of the month is Polish. Please see the words we have learned in the attached file.**

## Message from Mrs Markham

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards my sponsorship for the half marathon last Sunday. In total **£625** was raised for the charity **Mind**. Thank you all again and it was so wonderful to see so many parents and children taking part in the run and supporting those who were running by standing in the freezing cold, with banners, water and jelly babies. It made a huge difference.

## Woodgreen Visit

Tuesday began with an assembly which explained the work of Woodgreen Animal Shelter. Hope, from the charity, shared a presentation about the range of animals the charity helps and how their aim is to rehome these animals, matching them with suitable and willing families. Newnham Nursery, Reception and Year 1 then joined workshops with Hope, who discussed the importance of having the correct provision when caring for a small animal such as a hamster. She showed us the appropriate size of cage, the best bedding, the need for toys and food and drink. She also told us that hamsters do not like to live with other hamsters as they are territorial but enjoy having a human friend to care for them.



## World Book Day

On Thursday this week, we marked World Book Day as a whole school. The day started with a surprise adult reading a story with a class. We then had a glorious fashion parade in the hall when we admired the creations of 'dressing your



head as a book'. There was so much creativity and this was enjoyed by everyone. We had buddied book reading when a

KS1/EY class read with a KS2 class, sharing books of their choice. We also had a visit from Joe Markham (Mrs Markham's husband) who works as a screenwriter and shared his recent work on The Amazing World of Gumball. Here's a link to watch the clip he was talking about:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MiGHBjf-rWk>

Well done to everyone for putting in so much effort into their book representations and we hope you enjoy spending your book voucher soon.

### Eat lunch with your child

Next week, we are welcoming parents and carers of Reception parents to lunch with their children. Those who have signed up are asked to arrive sharp at 11.55am.

### Red Nose Day

For next week's Red Nose Day, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March, the school will be celebrating by having a whole-school joke competition, so encourage your child to think of their favourite joke. We also hope to raise some funds for this brilliant charity with a treat sale at breaktime. Please could you help by sending in treats (cakes, biscuits or fruit) for the older children to sell and give your children 50p if they would like to buy something on the day. Please can treat donations be individual portions to make it easier for the children running the stall.

### Music Festival 27th March

We are delighted to announce our Spring Music Festival, which will take place at 6.30pm 27th March in the school hall. Featuring the Newnham Croft Orchestra, any child that is learning an instrument in school or privately is welcome to play to our friendly audience. To sign up or for more details, follow this link:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Z1JFujPwwFywFYAEI4JjAyCbNoKtgQ2AhVh\\_3dBGtjM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Z1JFujPwwFywFYAEI4JjAyCbNoKtgQ2AhVh_3dBGtjM/edit?usp=sharing)

### Classroom news:

#### Reception

We have had a very eventful week in Reception this week, which you can read about within this newsletter. Included in this, was our discussion about the four seasons of the year. We looked at the trees and plants on our school grounds, noticing the beginnings of blossoms growing and daffodils looking so cheerful. We then painted trees at different points of the year and have one here for you to enjoy.



#### KS1

In maths, Year 1 has been looking at fractions of amounts and measuring using nonstandard units. All of KS1 have continued with their topic of Fire Fire, this week engaging in role play of the fire and looking at vocabulary. All children

have also painted the flames to help with their descriptive writing.

World Book Day this week was lots of fun; our classes had different adults reading to them. Each year also took part in buddy reading sessions with different classes. We were very impressed with everyone's dress your heads as your



favourite book!

In history, we looked at some sources from the Great Fire of London and made predictions of what

they were. For art this week we experimented with different mark making with pencils. In science this week we were exploring leaves and wild flowers around school, exploring deciduous and coniferous trees.

#### Year 3

Year 3 have worked really hard during their play rehearsals this week without the aid of their scripts. In our maths sessions, the children worked on problems involving time. At the start of the week the children learnt how to read and write times using analogue and digital times. Later in the week they learnt how to count forward in 5 minute intervals to find the duration of a task. In DT, the children learnt about the importance of chocolate to Mayans and enjoyed tasting various potential ingredients they could use for their chocolate bark. In our science session the children found out about scientific ideas and inventions from around the world.

#### Year 4

This week we have continued to work hard on the production and have tried rehearsing without scripts on the stage. We are getting better and better at projecting our voices and adding expression and actions. In maths this week, we have been investigating one decimal place numbers and multiplying and dividing by 10. In English we have been looking for evidence about the characters in 'Wind In The Willows.' In science we have found out about scientific discoveries and inventions from around the world. In our topic work we have been finding out how the Mayan number system works. We are very excited about making chocolate bark on Monday. Please remember to send in the ingredients your child needs for their design. Please don't pre-chop any ingredients as we will be practising our slicing and chopping skills at school. Please find attached spelling words making a 'soft c' sound using ce.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Year 5

In maths, we learned how to express remainders as fractions when dividing and also how to convert these fractions into money for money-related division. We then moved onto measuring angles accurately using protractors. In English, we practised using both modal verbs and adverbs of possibility to talk about events which have not yet happened. In science, we created a to-scale timeline of the history of life on Earth on the school field and discussed how fossils can teach us about the life that came before humans. In geography, we talked about how birth and death rates affect a country's population and the factors that contribute towards these.

### Year 6

On Monday, we had a debate on *If AI Should Replace Teachers?* in the format of The House of Commons. On Tuesday, we made an evolutionary timeline from when single-celled organisms existed all the way to the modern day. On Wednesday we started our new computing topic which is spreadsheets. Thursday was World Book Day where



we showed off our book-themed hats, did a book quiz and read books to each other. We did a pupil questionnaire on Friday and ended the day with Golden Time. Last Friday we had the Film Festival and we are hugely grateful for your support. Thank you!

*Rupert, Praket and Mark*

### School Meals

The three weekly menu rota is attached. Next week's menu will be Week 3. The cost of a school meal is £2.50.

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).

### Film night 20th March 6.30pm

The Friends of Paradise invite you to a screening and Q&A of the film *Pure, Clean Water* with Director Tony Eva in the school hall on 20th March. Having featured at the 2023 Cambridge Film Festival, the film focusses on our local watercourse known as Hobson's Conduit, which for 250 years diverted a natural spring to provide Cambridge with its main source of drinking water. As demand is now causing springs to dry up and precious chalk streams to disappear, the film asks whether water companies, regulators, businesses, land owners, consumers and the government can come together to ensure Cambridge has a reliable water supply without further damaging the environment. This 1 hour film is suitable for Key Stage 2 children and up, with friends and families all warmly invited. No booking necessary. A suggested donation of £5 per person can be payable at the door.

## PTA NEWS

### Daffodil Day

Join us on Sunday 17th March, 12pm - 3pm to see the daffodils planted by parent volunteers last year. Once you've toured the grounds, stop in our tearoom for a cup of tea and a scone while the kids do some colouring in. Free entry and open to everyone, so bring a friend, family member or neighbour.

If you can lend a hand or offer up some home baking to sell in the tearoom, sign up here:

<https://www.slottr.com/sheets/18282233>