



# Newnham News

Friday 25 November 2022

Interim Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Dear parents/carers,

While it has been tempting to just be done with it and move to Venice rather than waiting for the rain to flood the Cambridge streets, there has been too much going on in school to dwell on the weather.

The week started with Mike Mullen taking the children on his journey from a painfully shy school boy to the BMX champion of the world. What Mike shared was encapsulated by the quote from Henry Ford, founder of the eponymous car company, "whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're right" and underpins our belief in the untold benefits of nurturing a growth mindset.

From that wonderful starting point, we had assemblies on: why we protest; a reminder about safeguarding and trusted adults (and not to look over your shoulder when you're running forwards - thank you to a child in Year 1 for this); visits to Anglo-Saxon settlements in West Stow; and the Friday awards assembly.

Finally, a massive thank you to the PTA (again) for kindly approving the more-than forty requests that staff had made. The subjects that will benefit from this round of PTA-funding are: French, Geography, Maths, DT, Forest Schools and Art. The benefits will be felt by every child at Newnham Croft. Absolutely amazing!

Have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards  
Eddie Ferguson

## BMX Workshop

We had a fantastic start to the week with a whole school assembly by Mike Mullen, the BMX world champion in half pipe. He talked to the children about his journey to success and positive growth mindset. Following the assembly Years 5 and 6 had some BMX workshops with him.

The BMX workshop was excellent and exciting. Mike was a great instructor and taught us many fun tricks. We learnt how to bike with no hands and jump off small ramps. He taught us how to do the *kan kan* and *nak nak* on a BMX bike. He also taught us about never giving up and a cool trick called *flearning*, which is when you fail and learn at the same time.  
*By Nelly and Carmen*

## Winter Music Festival

We still have spaces for any budding musicians to play in the 2022 Winter Music Festival, straight after school from 3.30pm-4.30pm on **Friday 9 December**. Sign up here [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1YInMJnfrzNZ1v6a\\_35zMY9PpddMfvX26vmmf9WUlcY4/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1YInMJnfrzNZ1v6a_35zMY9PpddMfvX26vmmf9WUlcY4/edit?usp=sharing)

## Classroom News:

### Reception

Our excellent start with the BMX assembly on Monday got Reception thinking. Not only were we inspired by the message of learning through failure, we also thought about how Mike Mullen, the BMX champion carried out his stunts. We experimented with rolling vehicles down ramps with different surfaces. We predicted what might happen if a vehicle rolled down a bumpy ramp or a smooth ramp and on which of these surfaces would it roll the furthest. We predicted, compared, tested and discussed our results. Peregrine explained that "bumps make it really hard to go fast, smooth makes it go fast like the visitor (Mike Mullen) was fast when he jumped over the teachers."

### Years 1 and 2

Key Stage One started the week excited to have a BMX expert in school, who thrilled the children with his incredible tricks and stunts. In Maths, Year 1 have been recapping one more and one less and then used number sentences to show their understanding of this. They then moved on to work out 2 more and 2 less. Year 2 completed their work on capacity by estimating how many litres different containers could hold, such as a saucepan, bucket, bowl and a bath. Year 2 have now moved on to recapping their number bonds/ facts to 10 and then applied this learning to their number bonds/ facts to 20. In English, we read the story of *Dogger* by Shirley Hughes and the class answered some comprehension questions using their retrieval and inference skills. The classes then created some "missing" posters, imagining that their favourite toy had gone missing. The Year 1s used descriptive language and the year 2s combined descriptive language with connectives to describe the appearance of their toys and also include when the toy was last seen. In Science, we have been looking at leaf damage and which insects and fungus' cause this. Well done for a very hard working week.

For all Year 2 parents, we have sent out an optional spelling practise sheet for your children. See attachment.

Just as a reminder to all parents in Key Stage One classes, next **Wednesday 30 November** is our toy Museum and it would be great if your child could bring in a toy from their parent or grandparent, if they haven't already, which will provide us with a range of different toys through the eras. See attachment.

### Year 3

This week the children had an enjoyable trip to West Stow Anglo Saxon Village near Bury St Edmunds. They learnt what life might have



been like living through this period and enjoyed looking around the museum and the various re-enactments. In our History lessons the children learnt where the Saxons, Jutes and Angles first settled and enjoyed finding various Anglo Saxon place names using atlases and maps. In Maths lessons the children compared, added and subtracted millilitres and litres. Later on in the week they enjoyed finding the perimeter of 2D shapes. In Computer lessons the children enjoyed copying and pasting images for their reports on Roman Britain.

### Year 4

This week, we kick-started our Anglo-Saxon topic by visiting West Stow Anglo-Saxon village. The children enjoyed exploring Anglo-Saxon style houses, handling some real artefacts and having their questions answered by an Anglo-Saxon expert. In Maths, we have been revising place value and challenging ourselves with problem solving activities while in English we finished our non-chronological reports by adding pictures and captions. In Science, we have been investigating how distance affects how we hear sound as well as how to change the pitch of a sound using everyday objects.

### Year 5

Year 5 started the week off with an excellent Growth Mindset BMX workshop. They all challenged themselves and left with a sense of huge achievement by stepping outside of their comfort zone. In Maths this week Year 5 have looked at multiplication and division, finding common multiples, factors and deciding whether we need to round answers up or down in mental division problems. In English we have explored devises for creating cohesive writing. Using reports on migratory animals, we have looked at topic sentences, adverbials, conjunctions and pronouns and were able to apply these when changing notes into paragraphs that flowed and made sense. We're enjoying reading Goodnight Mr Tom and have explored the two main characters' personalities using retrieval and inference.

### Year 6

This week in Maths, Year 6 learnt about multiplication and word problems. In RE, we learnt about refugees and made beautiful posters about them and how to help refugees. In Science, we tested a netball and basketball's air pressure. In English, we wrote a creative piece of writing in the first person, using ambitious vocabulary and dramatic words.

*By Danielle*

### School Meals

The menu will be week 3 of the menu cycle (attached). 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).

### Diary Dates

Y6 swimming.....	30 Nov
Forest School Y3 am .....	2 Dec
Y6 swimming.....	7 Dec
Music Festival 3.30pm.....	9 Dec
Rec & KS1 production 2pm .....	12 Dec
Rec & KS1 production 3.15pm .....	13 Dec
Rec NHS Vision Screening 9 am.....	19 Dec
School Christmas lunch .....	20 Dec
Festive singing 3.20pm.....	20 Dec
Last day of term .....	21 Dec

### PTA NEWS

#### Last chance for a school Christmas tree

Order by midnight tonight for your last chance to buy a lovely locally grown tree and support the school [www.bit.ly/NewnhamTree](http://www.bit.ly/NewnhamTree).

We are looking for helpers to deliver the trees on Saturday 3rd December. If you have a car and can help give a few hours to delivering trees, please email [dani@meeprophone.com](mailto:dani@meeprophone.com).

### COMMUNITY NEWS

**JACA Football Coaching** – Sunday morning sessions for players who do not currently play for a local grassroots team. The aim is to give those players some organised practise and eventually help them to find a local team to play with. See attached flyer for further information.