



Newnham News

Friday 23 January 2026

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Online safety](#)

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As with everyone, it seems, we have been battling various nasty bugs in school.

So for today, I would just like to say a big thank you to all the staff. To those who have covered for the absent; those who have come to work, despite being very (non-contagiously) unwell; those who have been so uncomplaining and flexible when having their role for the day changed three times before breaktime.

The staff team is what makes working here positive and worthwhile, and this week has been a perfect example of that team in action. Amazing!

For everyone - ill, recovering or in robust health - have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

Parenting workshop session	1.30pm	Mon 26 Jan
Year 5 swimming		Tues 27 Jan
Year 5 trip to Whipple Museum		Thurs 29 Jan
Year 3 forest school		Fri 30 Jan
Year 2 forest school		Fri 30 Jan

Please check the school calendar on our [website](#), which is updated regularly.

Whole school news

Book Lists

Thank you to everyone who has bought books from our class wish lists. If you haven't yet, there is still time to buy new exciting fiction or non-fiction books linked to topics. For more information, see our [website](#).

School Meals

The weekly menu is attached and [online](#). The menu next week will be Week 1. The cost of a school meal is £2.75.

Classroom news

Reception

It has been a very exciting week in Reception! Half of the class went on their very first school trip, travelling by bus to the Central Library. The children were fantastically behaved and especially loved sitting at the top of the double-decker bus – a real highlight of the trip! In maths, we have been learning about ordinal numbers and exploring patterns using the 100 square. In English, the children confidently performed their popcorn poem in assembly and enjoyed writing about their bus trip. In PSHE, we have been talking about the importance of politeness and created some wonderful *polite penguins* to help remind us of our good manners.



Year 1

Year 1 has been enjoying the story *Stanley's Stick* by John Hegley and Neal Layton. This week, the children wrote their own versions of the story. They decided what they would use their stick for, how they might give it away, and how they felt when they found a new stick. In their writing, the children focused on making sure each sentence was well formed. They checked for capital letters at the start of sentences, finger spaces between words,

and full stops at the end. They also read their sentences back to make sure they made sense.

Year 2

In English, we began the week with a class walk to Lammas Land to support our slow rise story inspired by *Last Stop on Market Street*. The children carefully observed their surroundings, planned their characters and stories, and began writing towards the end of the week. In art this week, the children explored the work of printmakers before creating their own carbon prints using careful tracing skills. In geography, we located and named the five oceans and learned some interesting facts about each one. In science, the children observed and measured human growth, using simple measuring equipment and recording measurements in centimetres. In maths, we used directional language and started our shape unit by recognising and describing pentagons, hexagons and octagons. Well done Year 2 for another fantastic week!

Year 3

Year 3 has had another busy week. In maths lessons we looked at applying some of the rules that govern how we multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1000. Later in

the week, we started to use formal calculation methods to multiply 2-digit numbers by 1 digit numbers. In our English lessons, the children worked really hard on writing their persuasive speeches and looked to incorporate some of the devices we had highlighted in class. In geography the

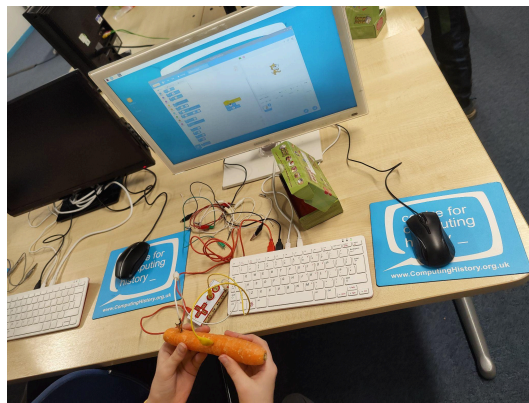


children enjoyed finding out about some of the physical and human features that you might find in Antarctica. The week was finished off with an exciting and informative visit to the Scott Polar Museum.

Year 4

In maths, as well as using number lines, we have tried out shorter ways to write division. We continued to explore

equivalent fractions and practised giving them in their simplest form. In English, we tried out using prepositions and we planned an explanation text for our flying machine design. We enjoyed two educational visits this week; one to the



Centre for Computing History and one to the Scott Polar Museum. In science, we practised constructing different electrical circuits to test which ones worked, which ones didn't and why. Spelling this week is words ending in -ous.

Year 5

Year 5 has been busy building on their topic, *The Sikh Empire*. They spent this week learning about Lahore and how, during the Sikh Empire, it became wealthier because it enabled a great deal of trade, as it was situated along the Silk Road, where other countries also had access. In science, Year 5 explored the Moon and worked out how it travels around the Earth. In English, all children have continued exploring the book *Boy in the Tower* and had a go at describing the Bluchers. In maths, children have been estimating the volumes of shapes and learning about negative numbers. Year 5 also had their second swimming session this week and did brilliantly. Well done for a hardworking week!

Year 6

This week in Year 6, we had a jam-packed week. Firstly, we walked to the Sedgewick Museum, but that day happened to be the day that heavily rained. Almost all of us got soaked. Secondly, Year 6 started reading *Warhorse* by Michael Morpurgo. Miss Baxter is (mostly) reading it to us and it's already quite sad. Lastly, we all balanced books on our heads today. It started with one of Ms H's tangents about good posture this time. So we all tried it. That was our week!

By Ahyun

PTA news

The PTA had a positive and proactive first meeting of the year on Thursday 22 January at 18.00, attended by 11 parents and Mr Ferguson.

Following a successful Christmas Tree sale, with massive thanks to Al Britton and Emily Chenette for taking on orders and deliveries, and Elizabeth Wheeler for bringing

the festive fun with the ever popular Winter Bazaar, we were very happy to approve all equipment requests from the teachers. This included new furniture for Year 1 and scanning pens to support reading.

No events have been planned for this term, as yet... If you have any ideas please email them to newnhamcroftpta@gmail.com

We are building up to launch a fundraising campaign for the upgrade of the school playground equipment (£30k - £40k), which will be our main focus over the next couple of years. Please watch this space and join us. All parents and teachers are welcome!

Community news

Half term tennis camp

Please find attached a poster for CLTC October half term camps. Booking links can be found on their website <https://www.cambridgeltc.com/coaching/half-term-tennis-camp/>

Cricket

Coton Village Cricket, sitting just to the edge of West Cambridge, is kicking off its winter training for adults and juniors, and looking for new members to join both sections and develop their love of cricket in a friendly and inclusive way. Reach out to syon.parashar@gmail.com if interested in adult T20 or T40 teams or juniors@coton.cricket if your kids, boys or girls, from 4 to 14, would like to play. See attached poster for more info.

Coton football

Please see the attached flyer for Minikickers football at Coton.