



Newnham News

Friday 10 May 2024

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

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Dear parents/carers,

Speaking to Mrs Turner about an event run by her own children's school at the weekend, it was interesting to hear that the number of parent volunteers had really dropped off since the pandemic.

It is symptomatic of so many community-based school groups, not least our own PTA, who have really struggled for volunteers over the last few years.

The PTA have been amazing at supporting the school through its fundraising, allowing the children iPads, the Island play structure, professional performers in assembly, library books, science resources, DT resources etc.

However, it is also the sense of community that PTA events engender and the marking of moments in the school year that is so wonderful for the children and greatly enhances the community feel of our school.

Bearing all of this in mind, the PTA are in desperate need for some volunteers to help with the summer fete. They need 2-4 main organisers to take on the admin and logistics (supported by the experienced members of the PTA) as well as lots of volunteers for the actual day. If these helpful parents are not found, the summer fete will not happen this year, which would be such a shame.

The PTA would also like to invite any and all parents (you are all automatically members) to their AGM on the evening of 22nd May in the school.

I hope you all have lovely, sunny weekends.

Kind regards
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

Year 6 SATS	Mon 13 - Thurs 16 May
Year 2 swimming	Tues 14 May
Year 3 swimming	Wed 15 May
Year 4 swimming	Wed 15 May

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

Classroom news

Reception

On Thursday, Reception went to the Cambridge Botanic Gardens to support our topic on the Wonderful Outside. The weather was also wonderful, as were our many parent



helpers. We looked at the glass houses, noticing the different temperatures within each room and also discussed the various leaf types and sizes. We are planning to mark World Bee day in a couple of weeks time and have picked up a few tips as to the types of planting bees prefer.

KS1

It has been a busy "short week" in KS1 with lots of new learning and enjoying the outdoors in the spring sunshine! In English, we have been learning to retell the story of *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch* using our class version. We have discussed the ambitious vocabulary borrowed from the book and learnt actions to tell the story to an audience. In maths, Year 1 has continued to learn about subtraction and used different methods to solve equations. Year 2 has been learning the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, using the correct mathematical language to describe a range of regular and irregular shapes. In geography, we have been learning about what we see at the seaside and asking the question "Why do you think there are human geographical features at the coast?" We continue to learn about the weather and seasons in science and have challenged the children to record and present the data they gathered this week. The children impressed Miss Genochio in PE with excellent jumping skills as we learnt to jump for height and distance. Year 2s continue to do really well at swimming.

Thank you to everyone who has returned their reading book this week. We would like to do more design and modelling, so please bring in any empty, clean, recyclable household items to school if possible.

Year 3

Year 3 has had another really busy week. In our English sessions, the children planned and started to write their own exciting stories inspired by *Fantastic Mr Fox*. In our maths sessions, the children worked on counting up in 50s and 100s. They also learnt how to multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number using the grid method. In our RE lesson, the children considered what our souls contain and what happens to them when we die. In our science session, the children enjoyed continuing to construct simple electrical circuits containing switches and various other components.

Year 4

We have had an exciting time at Grafham Water. We learnt how to tie knots and used them to make a raft out of logs,



barrels and rope. The sailing was very peaceful. There were three levels on the climbing wall. The hardest one didn't have many holds but some people got to the top. Everyone pushed themselves to go a bit higher.

By Lyra, Alex Herbaux and Aubrey

Year 5

In maths, we finished our topic on decimals by subtracting decimals to two decimal places, and then we began our multiplication and division topic by using known facts to help us do multiplication and division mentally (e.g. using 10×6 to work out 19×6). In English, we have been continuing to edit and improve our script as we practise the play. Rehearsals for the play have been going really well and everyone is so excited about the upcoming performance.

Last week, we had an absolutely amazing time at Thorpe Woodlands. The instructors commented many times on how impressed they were by the behaviour and brilliant attitude of the class and how great they were at working together as a team. Every single child really challenged themselves, stepped out of their comfort zone and supported everyone else in their group. The adults also had a really enjoyable trip thanks to how fabulous the children were!

Year 6

This week in PE we did rounders. In maths, we revised for our SATS which are next week. In English, we wrote questions for Year 5 about the plague. We experimented with the use of carbon paper in art. In RE, we will be learning about Guru Nanak. We have been doing revision for SPAG and we have been doing mini tests. We also did a bit about poems in English.

By Praket and Evi

School Meals

The three weekly menu rota is attached. Next week's menu will be Week 2. 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

PTA NEWS

Garden Club

Please join us on **Sunday 19 May, 10am - 12pm** for Garden Club. All are welcome to attend but please be aware small children need to be supervised at all times. Bring gloves and some small tools if you have them (spade, garden shears etc). PTA coffee/tea and biscuits. Hope to see you all there!

AGM

The PTA AGM is approaching on Wednesday 22nd June, 7.30pm in the school. Please attend and join the committee for next year.

Community News

Half term sports camps

Please see the attached posters for council run half term activities.

Can you help keep Sheep's Green Learner Pool open?

The Council are struggling to recruit poolside assistants to ensure our local Sheep's Green Learner Pool can open. Any help spreading awareness of these vacancies would be much appreciated! The roles are part time and flexible, and there is no need to demonstrate swimming proficiency. Perfect for any students home for the holidays. Applicants need to be over 18, friendly, reliable and self-motivated. No previous experience necessary. Up to £13.45 per hour. Please do share with friends & neighbours. This is an ideal job for students or anyone looking to give something back to the community. For more information see the poster or visit <https://sheepsgreen.wordpress.com/>