



# Newnham News

Friday 24 February 2023

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thursday 2 March is World Book Day. We will be celebrating with: teachers reading to different classes; having an author-quiz in assembly; and then a buddy-reading session after break. There will also be the opportunity for you to pick up one or two of hundreds of pre-loved reading books. We have a lot that we cannot store or use, so are giving them away after school on Thursday. We will gratefully accept any voluntary donations, which will go towards funding new books that link directly to our phonics scheme, Little Wandle, including catch-up books for older children.

Thank you for those of you that have sponsored me for the forthcoming Cambridge Half Marathon (Sunday 5 March). If you would like to help raise money for the projects (the cause is an "essential" staffroom hot water dispenser and reading books for the children), then the link to my JustGiving page is at the bottom of this entry.

Finally, could I ask that all payments for trips, reading club, swimming etc. be made promptly. If have any problem making a payment, either accessing your account or due to affordability, please let us know immediately and we will help as best we can.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards  
Eddie Ferguson

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/eddie-ferguson?utm\\_term=5Dk2b7KA2](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/eddie-ferguson?utm_term=5Dk2b7KA2)

## Classroom news:

### Reception

In Reception, we have started our new half-termly topic of Amazing Animals. We brain-stormed our existing knowledge about animals and also thought about the information we would like to find out. Charlie knows that animals which are active at night time are called nocturnal animals and Cecily wants to find out why some animals have patterns. We have started reading our new class book, 'Is there a Dog in this Book?' by Viviane Schwarz.

### Years 1 and 2

It's been lovely to welcome Years 1 and 2 back. This week, we've started exploring our new topic based around the seasons of the year. In Science, we went on a spring walk to

observe the changes taking place outside, as we move from winter towards spring. The children talked about how the days were starting to feel longer and lighter and the plants, such as daffodils and snowdrops were starting to appear. In Geography, all classes have started to explore key elements that make up our country, such as 'towns,' 'cities' and the 'countryside.' The children created a Venn diagram comparing towns to the countryside. They discussed how the countryside is often quieter and full of fields and animals, whereas towns have more people and tend to be noisier and busier, due to shops and office blocks where people will be working. In English, we've started exploring poetry and this week all classes have looked at a selection of different poems. The children then went on to sort out different text types under the headings, 'Poems' and 'Not poems'. Working in pairs, the children placed written statements such as, 'contains repetitions' under the headings of 'Always,' 'Sometimes' and 'Never' to get the children to discuss poems further. In Maths, Year 1s have been using a number line to place numbers on and work out what numbers lie within different parts of the number lines. Meanwhile, the Year 2s have been using number lines and 100 grid squares to work out addition and subtraction number sentences. Well done for a hardworking week Key Stage One.

Please could all Year 1 parents remember to let us know if they are intending to send their child to the theatre trip next Wednesday by replying to the email sent out a few weeks ago. Number bonds to 16 are attached to the newsletter for Year 2s, along with spellings to be practised at home.

### Year 3

Year 3 have made a good start to the half term. In our Maths sessions, we have focused on fractions. The children placed them on number lines and compared and ordered them using a fraction wall. In English, we have started to look at the biographies of various famous people. The children enjoyed reading about Greta Thunberg and Jane Goodall and presenting a talk about them. In our Geography lessons, we started to consider what we know about water and how it might change if it is placed under certain conditions. In Music, the children made an enthusiastic start to learning the songs for the Year 3/4 play.

### Year 4

We have been continuing with our fractions topic in Maths, this week focusing on equivalent fractions, mixed numbers and adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators. In English, we have started our new topic on shape poetry (based on the book 'Shaping the World' by

Liz Brownlee). The children have explored different ways of creating a shape poem and have delivered some beautiful poetry performances for the class. We have begun our Geography topic, Water, by experimenting to see how water changes state when heated and cooled and we have also been very excited to start working on our Year 3/4 performance.

### Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been exploring 2D and 3D shape in Maths. We've looked at properties of shape using an increasing vocabulary including quadrilateral, rhombus, parallelogram, trapezium, parallel and perpendicular. In English, we've started a new fiction unit based on stories from faraway settings. The class made excellent predictions from the start of *Cloud Tea Monkeys* by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham and enjoyed exploring how the authors used language when describing the characters for impact. The class have all been making fantastic progress with their weekly swimming sessions and are working incredibly hard to build confidence, refine their technique and increase stamina.

### Year 6

In Year 6, we have been learning our usual Maths and English. In Maths, we have been learning about shapes and their areas. In English, we are reading the book *Clockwork* and so far it's about a boy called Fritz telling stories in a pub and Karl who hasn't finished his piece of clockwork. In Science, we have been learning about inheritance and acquiring and what they both mean. In Computing, we have been making a game on Scratch and we also tried to program Sprites and last but not least, in PE we are learning hockey and yesterday we played a match and practiced skills. *By Jaevin and Nelly*

### School Meals

The menu next week will be Week 1 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

Y5 swimming..... 1 Mar  
Rec & Y1 to Arts Theatre ..... 1 Mar  
Co-op breakfast café 8.30am..... 3 Mar  
Y5 swimming..... 8 Mar  
Y5&6 CUWO concert at West Road ..... 13 Mar  
Y5 swimming..... 15 Mar  
Y5 swimming..... 22 Mar  
Y5 swimming..... 29 Mar

## Community

### Join your local Guides!

Who? We are a friendly group of 10-15 year old girls.

What? We plan our own activities but we often chat, play games, do crafts, sing and make camp fires.

What else? We go skating, bowling, sailing, camping and walking – you choose.

When? We get together every Friday evening in term time from 6.30pm-8.15pm.

Where? We meet in the Newnham Scout Hut at the end of Chedworth Street (easy parking for pick-up and drop off).

How? Please contact Sian on [sianedutton@hotmail.com](mailto:sianedutton@hotmail.com)

### Could you support a University medical student?

A medical student living in Newnham is looking for an assistant to attend lectures and practicals with them. This is a paid opportunity and hours (in the region of 10-20 per week) can be negotiated. No prior experience is necessary. More information and details on how to apply can be found here

<https://www.disability.admin.cam.ac.uk/thinking-about-disability/about-adrc/job-opportunities-and-temporary-assignments>