



# Newnham News

Friday 7 October 2022

Interim Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Dear parents/carers,

In our assemblies this week, we've been looking at what makes a trusted adult (Monday) and, for KS2, how to stay safe and behave respectfully online (Thursday). Mrs Markham also led an assembly to celebrate World Space Week, while on Tuesday morning, Mrs Turner held a PSHE workshop. Slides for these sessions are attached below.

On Wednesday, the full governing body (FGB) met for the first time this year. The governors' role is possibly underappreciated; they play a vital (and OFSTED inspected) part in the strategic direction of the school as well as ensuring accountability for the decisions made by leadership. If you're interested in what is said in these meetings, the minutes are available on the school website (although there will always be a delay of a couple of months as the minutes need to be approved at the next FGB before they can be released).

Finally, the school census was completed on Thursday. It showed that the school is 3 children short of being full (235). At a time when other schools are struggling to make up their numbers, it is a testament to the atmosphere and appeal that all of the Newnham Croft stakeholders (parents, governors, staff, but especially the children) help to create. Good work all of you,

Kind regards  
Eddie Ferguson

## Harvest Festival Assembly, 9.15am 10 October 2022

A reminder that parents are warmly invited to attend the Harvest Festival singing assembly on Monday at 9.15am (not 9.45am as stated in the previous newsletter). Donations to Jimmy's Night Shelter can be dropped off in the school hall first thing in the morning. Thank you.

## Pupil Photographs Tuesday 11 October

A reminder that Pret-a-Portrait will in school on Tuesday morning to take portraits of all the children. If you would like a family photo taken with younger siblings, please come to the school hall between 8.30-9am. Siblings in school will have their picture taken together during the school day.

## Latin Club

Spaces are still available for this Year 4-6 after school club on Wednesdays, 3.15-4.15. Please email William Jefferies if you would like to register your child.

[museum-education@classics.cam.ac.uk](mailto:museum-education@classics.cam.ac.uk)

## PSHE Presentation

Thank you to the parents who were able to make Tuesday morning's presentation on PSHE. The slides from the presentation have been attached in the email for anybody who would like to know what was discussed. Look out for a PSHE/Mental Health display board outside the school kitchen soon, with information on what we're covering in PSHE in classes and support for children and parents on mental health and well-being.

## World Mental Health Day

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October is World Mental Health Day. We will be taking part in #helloyellow for young minds by wearing yellow and discussing the importance of our well-being. We'll be looking at our emotions in class and have a whole school assembly in the afternoon on our well-being and who we could go to if we're finding our emotions difficult to manage. For your information, we've attached the PowerPoint that we will show in assembly so you are aware of the level that we talk about it with the whole school. Please encourage your child to wear something yellow to school. There will also be an opportunity to make a voluntary contribution to the charity, Young Minds, of any amount you'd like to donate.

## Music Festival sign up - concert next week!

All children learning a musical instrument, either at school or privately, are invited to play in this half term's Music Festival, which will be held next week on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 3.30-4.30pm**. I appreciate this is quite short notice, but do feel free to sign up even if you are not completely concert ready. The audience is small and friendly, and everyone from those who have only started learning this term to more experienced musicians are welcome. The festival will take place IN PERSON. Please sign up by Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October. <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/173f4LhCGJ5rIIl9wKocqL0eSPMg7Uw495Ipm5L-k20k/edit?usp=sharing> Any questions, please email Dani on [dani@meeprophone.com](mailto:dani@meeprophone.com).

## Classroom News:

### Reception

With Mrs Marroncelli, the children have been learning about Sukkot. This is the Jewish celebration of harvest. Together, the children built a Sukkah, which is a small hut that is decorated with leaves and branches. The Sukkah is used to sleep and eat in during the festival. Reception parents/carers can see the photos of this activity on ClassDojo. Please let us know if you haven't been able to log on to this as it is full of useful information, specific to our class.

### Years 1 and 2

In Maths, Year 1 have been learning to find ten more and ten less of numbers up to 50. They were also learning to recognise the + and = signs and to use these to read and write simple additions and subtractions. Year 2 have been finding change by counting up and adding and subtracting 10, 11 and 20 in the context of money. In English, we focused on describing a setting using new vocabulary and adventurous adjectives. Evan wrote: "I can hear my heart beating loudly and I can feel



the spiky grass brushing my legs." We have also been working hard on our guided reading and practising spelling tricky words, as well as words using the graphemes we have covered this week in phonics. Year 1 have been continuing to learn the Phase 3 phonemes and Year 2 are working at Phase 5, which means that they are learning the alternative graphemes for sounds introduced in Phases 2 and 3 through the Little Wandle phonics and reading scheme. In Science, we carried out tests to compare materials. We had fun investigating which materials (marshmallows, lego blocks, cotton wool balls and wooden lolly pop sticks) were the most suitable for building walls for the three little pigs. We explored wheel mechanisms for our moving stories in DT.

### Year 3

This week, Year 3 have made a really enthusiastic start to writing their stories inspired by 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura. In the lead up to writing their stories, we briefly looked at why we have paragraphs and the children tried to include them for each of the different settings they included. In Maths sessions, the children used counting-up and number lines to solve subtraction questions and problems involving change. Towards the end of the week, the children used partitioning to add 2-digit numbers. Spelling work has focused around homophones. In Science lessons, we continued to classify animals according to their characteristics. In our History sessions, we focused on the shift from the Bronze Age into the Iron Age. In PE lessons, the children worked really hard on perfecting their forward and backwards rolls.

### Year 4

This week we have written our own stories, inspired by *Stone Age Boy*, about portals to different worlds, realities and eras. We have been practising telling the time using both analogue and digital clocks and have explored how time telling and time maths is used every day in our lives. In history, we looked at the shift from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age and showed amazing teamwork skills in our investigation. In PSHE, we discussed friendship skills and how we can make new friends while treasuring the friends we already have.

### Year 5

In Year 5 this week, we have been writing from a character's point of view, based on the film narrative, *The Piano*. In Maths, we started looking at written methods for addition and subtraction, challenging ourselves to make calculations that are closest to specific target numbers. Our science this week explored the lifecycle of mammals, comparing those of placentals, monotremes and marsupials. Our history lessons have explored the start of World War II. We looked at maps and used playdough to show the sequence of invasions and how/when other countries became involved in the war.

### Year 6

This week Year 6 have been busy writing their own war related stories and play scripts in English and History. In Maths, we have been rounding and ordering decimals and timesing and dividing by 10, 100 and 100. In PE, we've been practising pacing ourselves and sticking to that speed in cross country. In swimming this week, some of us have been practising front crawl and our swimming techniques. In Art, we've been making a water colour inspired by Paul Nash's work: *The Dog Fight*. We have been using candles to push away the water colours to make our replicas. *By Natalie and Monty W*

### School Meals

Next week 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

Harvest Festival assembly 9.15am .....	10 Oct
Open afternoon for parents 3.15-4.15pm .....	10 Oct
Pupil individual photographs .....	11 Oct
Y6 swimming.....	12 Oct
Parent consultations face to face 1.30-4.30pm .....	17 Oct
Parent consultations via Zoom, 3.30-6pm .....	18 Oct
Y5&6 cross country, Grantchester Meadows.....	18 Oct
Y6 swimming.....	19 Oct
Y6 swimming.....	26 Oct
Half term week .....	24-28 Oct
Y5&6 to Bletchley Park.....	7 Nov

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Newnham Croft Residents Association**  
**OWLSTONE CROFT MEETING and AGM**  
**TUESDAY 11TH OCTOBER 6.00–7.30pm at NEWNHAM**  
**CROFT SOCIAL CLUB, HARDWICK STREET**

Many people in Newnham are very concerned about Queens' plans for the development of Owlstone Croft, and that will be the focus of our AGM this year. Speakers will update residents on all the issues, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions about the campaign to oppose the plans.

The meeting is open to all, and Newnham Croft parents are very welcome.

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