



# Newnham News

Friday 24 November 2023

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Maths/calc policy](#)

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

Dear parents/carers,

I was very impressed with the e-safety webinar that Mrs Turner organised for parents on Tuesday evening.

The 2 Johns (both used to be officers with the Essex constabulary) were extremely engaging. The information they shared, which is so important for parents to engage with, was delivered clearly and accessibly, especially for those of us who might not be fully up to speed with Youtubers, influencers, social media and 'the youth'!

The over-riding message was (as it is for most issues that we face with our children) to make sure our lines of communication are open. As adults, we need to make sure that children are not scared that they will have their phone taken away or be banned from being online, if they tell us something bad that happened online, as that is what will make them hide things; and that is when problems can quickly escalate.

If you click [here](#), you can access the recording, which will remain live for the next 25 days. You are asked not to download or record it in any form. If you didn't attend the meeting, I would recommend watching it, no matter the age of your children.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards, Eddie Ferguson

## Diary Dates

Christmas Jumper Day.....	7 Dec
Rec and KS1 performance 2pm .....	12 Dec
Rec and KS1 performance 9.30am .....	13 Dec
Music Festival 6.30-7.30pm .....	15 Dec
Last day of term.....	20 Dec
Spring term starts for pupils.....	5 Jan

## Classroom news:

### Reception

We are really getting into the celebratory mood in Reception. As part of our topic of Let's Celebrate, we have been looking at party food. We listed our thoughts about the party food we have had and what makes it special. The class have been sharing photographs of their own birthday celebrations as well as listening to birthday songs in home languages.

### KS1

In Year 2, the children have been learning the story of The Ginger Bread Man using Talk4Writing actions, and have also been looking at story language and repetition. All of KS1 have created a story map to help them learn it. In Maths, Year 2 have been starting to think about doubling numbers up to 20 and halving numbers by partitioning them. They have also looked at multiples of 10 and 2, and the number patterns they show. Year 1 have been exploring money and counting coins, choosing the correct money to buy items. In History, the children have been looking at the events of the Gunpowder Plot and have made Wanted Signs for Thomas Percy. In Science, the children have been looking at animal habitats and how animals have adapted to their environments. In PSHE, we have been discussing how to stay safe when you get lost, a topic that would be good for you to continue at home. Please remember to bring back library books every Friday. All new e-books have been updated online for you to read at least 3 times a week. Children have been given their lines from the script for the Christmas performance, which they need to learn at home please; thank you for your support with this. Well done for a great week KS1.

### Year 3

Year 3 have had another busy week. In English, the children worked on retelling the story of Rama and the Demon King by Jessica Souhami. In Maths sessions, the children continued to compare units of length and learnt how to measure the perimeters of common 2D shapes. In History, the children learnt about the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb, and wrote a diary entry as if they were Howard Carter. In Computing, the children enjoyed story boarding their simple animation that they plan to create next week using iMotion.

### Year 4

In Maths, we worked on adding and subtracting multiples of 10, 100 and 1000 to 4-digit numbers, multiplying using the grid method and some problem solving and reasoning questions linked to these areas. In English, we finished reading Grimwood to rounds of rapturous applause, and wrote our own versions of different parts of the story that we will make into mini-books for Year 3 to read. In Design Technology, we planned our Egyptian collar design. In French, we used our language detective skills to work out new vocabulary. Your child will bring home a letter today with details of their Times Tables Rockstars log-in. If you have any problems accessing their account, please let us know. Please also find the Year 4 spellings attached.

## **Year 5**

In Maths, we learned how to use short multiplication and approached division problems with both the number line method and the vertical layout. In English, we practised using the past perfect, present perfect and future perfect tenses and wrote prequels for a short story, using the style of the writer. We continued to read our class book, *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, and identified different idioms found in the text. In Science, we explored the categorisation of different living things by Carl Linnaeus, while in PSHE, we discussed the Stop, Decide, Do approach to managing and reducing our risk.

## **Year 6**

In English this week, we have been doing modal verbs and progressing our knowledge on adverbs. We have also been writing a report on polar bears. In Maths, we have been learning about shape nets, angles, and shapes and their properties. In PE, we have been working on our netball skills and practising throwing, aim and catching. In Music, we have been playing a musical game to understand notes, rhythm and musical properties. In Art this week, we have been drawing self-portraits with black ink and layering it with Indian ink to add depth. *By Zarina and Mark*

## **School Meals**

The three weekly menu rota is attached. Next week's menu will be Week 3. 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).

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Great Fen Christmas Crafts**

We would like to share two upcoming events at the beautiful Ramsey Heights nature reserve. One is a Christmas crafts event and the other a family stargazing evening. PDFs of both are attached for more information.

### **Christmas Tech Camp**

Please see the flyer attached for this Camp for children in Years 1-6, or visit:

<https://www.nextthing.education/product/st-johns-college-christmas-camp/>