



Newnham News

Friday 17 November 2023

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Maths/calc policy](#)

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Dear parents/carers,

Thank you for all your donations to Children in Need and for the plethora of spotty outfits that were found for the occasion.

Thank you, also, to the PTA. Their continued support means that parents were able to enjoy a pause in their morning rush and compare notes with each other over a hot drink at the coffee morning; and that the younger children will be enjoying using an easel that Mr Jach is currently unpacking and putting together, the latest item funded by the PTA.

Attached is a link to The Big Ambition, a survey being conducted by the Government. It is a relatively short survey and, although it is easy to be sceptical in our over-surveyed world, it is important to at least try to capture the voices of the rarely-heard, whenever possible. If you would like your child to complete it (or you can complete it with them if that's more practical), please click here:

https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition/.

Please also find attached the current copy of Cambridgeshire County Council's road safety education service newsletter.

Kind regards, Eddie Ferguson

Diary Dates

Flu vaccinations whole school 21 Nov
e-Safety online workshop 8-9.30pm 21 Nov
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

Anti-Bullying Week

As part of this year's Anti-Bullying week, we welcomed Mr Walker from the Cambridgeshire United Foundation to further our understanding of what bullying is and the importance of standing up and Making a Noise about bullying. As part of this, Cambridge United are holding a competition to think creatively about stopping bullying. This could be by doing a poster, story, poem or anything creative. More information about the competition is attached.

Eco Committee

Our newly reformed Eco Committee has now met twice this term and has started working on our Action Plan for the year.

One idea the Committee had was to include a monthly Eco Tip in the newsletter. Here is our information this month.

November is the month where many schools take part in Switch off Fortnight. This year it is from 13-27 November. On Monday next week, the Eco Committee will be holding an assembly about the importance of switching off lights and appliances when they're not in use, and avoiding keeping electrical items on standby. Year 5 Eco Monitors will be checking classrooms each day and presenting the most environmentally friendly classrooms with a trophy in each Friday assembly. As well as making sure items are switched off when not in use, they'll be checking to make sure both sides of a piece of paper have been used, and all items that can be recycled are placed in the correct bin and that windows and doors are not left open when the heating is turned on. As well as in school, there are ways you can be more environmentally friendly at home. There is a list of handy energy saving tips on the attachment, where households can make small changes to help the environment, and save up to £250!

This week the Eco Committee met with Angela Potter, a garden designer who is working with us to design a community garden outside the front of the school. On Tuesday we measured up the area, tested the soil to measure the PH levels and the Committee discussed their brief. The children are keen to create a calm and peaceful area, encourage biodiversity and make it look welcoming. Angela will be drawing up some ideas before we meet again in the Spring term to plan the next stages.



Classroom news:

Reception

Ms D'Oyly has been teaching some of the Art lessons in Reception this term. The focus has been to look at mark making using different media, including pens, pencils, chalks and crayons. In this lesson the class used a variety of colours and materials to create their self-portraits, expressing their own self-image through art.



KS1

In Year 2 this week, the children have been writing acrostic poems about fireworks, using alliteration, and the Year 1 children wrote shape poems using adjectives to describe the fireworks. In Maths, Year 2 have been working on addition and subtraction using number facts and bridging 10 and in Year 1 they have been learning the names of 3D shapes and starting to look at their properties. In History, the children have been ordering the events of the Gunpowder Plot and we discussed why we celebrate November 5th. In PSHE this week, we talked about our emergency services and when we would need to call '999'. This is a topic that would be good for you to continue at home. Please remember to bring back library books every Friday and all new e-books have been updated online for you to read at least 3 times a week. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 3

Year 3 have worked really hard throughout the week. In our Maths sessions, the children constructed bar charts and answered questions based on them. In English, the children worked on joining clauses using a range of different conjunctions. In our PHSE sessions, the children looked at different scenarios and identified which constituted bullying. In History, the children learnt about the process of mummification and how the Ancient Egyptians prepared themselves for the afterlife.

Year 4

In Maths, we worked on place value with 4-digit numbers and missing number problems using multiplication and division. In English, we read more about the antics of the animals in *Grimwood* and we will use a sighting of a fox in our playground to inspire us in our own writing next week. In Science, we devised and conducted fair tests to compare how a toy car travels on different surfaces and to test magnet strengths. In PHSE, we looked at different scenarios and identified which constitute bullying. In History, we learnt about the process of mummification and how the Ancient Egyptians prepared themselves for the afterlife. Please find the Y4 spellings attached.

Year 5

In English, we have continued to enjoy various short stories and have been exploring adverbials, including fronted

adverbials, and how they help add detail to stories and make them flow. In Maths, we have been doing division with remainders and deciding, based on the context of the question, whether we would need to round up or down if a remainder would not be a solution to the real-life problem. We have also explored prime numbers and common multiples and used our times tables knowledge to help us solve divisions quickly in our heads. In PSHE, we discussed managing risks and how we can make sensible decisions when we are responsible for our own safety and that of others. In Science, we created classification keys to help others identify different types of leaves and minibeasts found in the school grounds.

Year 6

This week in Year 6, in Music we were following a musical score using xylophones and claves and in PE we continued with netball. We finished our class book *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom* and started *The Last Bear*. For Art we did some artwork based on the Scene of Bear Island. *By Benny, Ollie and Zihan.*

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.

Music Festival sign up

There are still slots available to perform at the next Music Festival on **Friday 15th December, which will be from 6.30-7.30pm** in the school hall. The concert will feature a Christmas performance from the Newnham Croft Orchestra and will be followed by festive drinks. Note the evening start time. Any child learning a musical instrument, whether privately or in school, is welcome to sign up to play. Please sign up by Thursday 14th December.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/173f4LhCGJ5rIIl9wKocqL0eSPMg7Uw495lpm5L-k20k/edit?usp=sharing>

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

One week to go to order your tree

Orders for Christmas trees close next Friday. Click here to order now <http://bit.ly/NewnhamTree>. Trees can be collected from school on Fri 1st Dec and Sat 2nd Dec. We are also offering delivery if you live within 1 mile of the school. Any questions, email dani@meeprophone.com

Christmas tree elves needed

We still need **volunteers to help distribute** the trees on Saturday 2nd December. This is a fun way to meet a few new faces and get a bit of exercise! If you don't mind you car getting filled with needles or can help deliver on foot using the school wheelbarrows/cargo bikes, please let me know by emailing dani@meeprophone.com. Thank you!