

Newnham Croft Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr E. Ferguson



Year 3 – Mr Goller

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your family are well and had an enjoyable summer break. I look forward to hearing about what your child got up to when they return to school on Monday 4th September.

The topic for the first part of the term is Volcanoes. Children will learn that the Earth is constructed in layers, and the crust is divided into tectonic plates. They will study the formation and distribution of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and use Mount Etna to identify how human interaction shapes a volcanic landscape. Our topic for the second half-term will be Ancient Egypt and we are planning to visit the Fitzwilliam Museum to bring this topic to life for the children and enrich their learning experience. We will send you details regarding the trip nearer the time. If you are an expert in either of these areas and would like to come into school to share your knowledge with the children, please come and speak to us before or after school. We would also appreciate any books or resources you may have to help us

Start and end of the school day

The bell for the start of the day will be rung at 8.45am and the children will be asked to line up in their year groups. At this point the adults will be asked to leave the playground. The second bell will then go and the children will be led into school by their class teacher. At the start of term, children will be brought to the front playground for collection at 3.15pm. I would be grateful if you could ensure that your child arrives promptly for the start of the school day as this avoids disruptions. If your child is late, please sign them in at the office.

School dinners / packed lunch

School lunches are no longer free in KS2. Payment is made through the school office if you decide to select this option for your child. The school dinner menu is displayed in the school kitchen window and on the school website and is emailed with the weekly newsletter. You may prefer instead to send your child in with a packed lunch, which should be placed on the trolley in the playground at the start of the school day.

Snacks and water bottles

Healthy snacks are no longer provided at break times but can be supplied from home if you desire your child to have one. We would be grateful if you could continue to send your child's labelled water bottle to school each day. Drinking water regularly during the day obviously helps to keep them fully hydrated.

PE times and active wear

Our PE slots for this term are Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Please can you ensure that your child has suitable clothing and footwear (in line with the school's active wear policy) not just on these days but for the whole of the week as PE times may change due to unforeseen circumstances. Active wear means: clothes and footwear comfortable and appropriate for physical activity (not sandals).

PPA cover

PPA will be covered on Wednesday afternoons by Mrs Onatskaia (Music) and Premier Sports (P.E) in order for me to be able to carry out planning, preparation and assessment activities.

Forest School and outdoor classroom

The children will be using the areas outside the classroom to extend their learning as well as Forest School sessions. Our date for Forest School for the Autumn Term will be emailed out nearer the time. We ask that you provide a waterproof coat, trousers and wellies on these days but also ensure that your child is suitably dressed on other school days so that we can enjoy the outside space around the school, whatever the weather.

Reading

I hope you have enjoyed listening to your child reading over the holidays. It is vital to stimulate a love of reading at this age and to nurture an ability to discuss what they have read. Listening to your child read daily is highly recommended. Every Wednesday, your child will have the opportunity to select a few reading books they wish to take home for the week. I always encourage the children to select broad selection of books that encompass a wide selection of different genres. I would encourage you to listen to your child read for around 10-15 minutes a day and to discuss afterwards what they have recalled.

Booknic

On Tuesday 26th September, we will be having a year 3/4 booknic (book picnic) where you can join your child after school from 3:15 to 3:50 on the field to read over a picnic. Bring some snacks and a book and enjoy sharing it together outside. There will also be books available at school for your child to explore.

Spellings and timestables

Each Friday a list of spellings will be sent home which your child could practise at home. These will be the spellings we will be focusing on in school. There will also be occasional times table challenges that you can complete with your child.

Open afternoon and parents consultations

Open afternoon will take place on Monday 9th October from 3.15pm-4.15pm. Parent consultations will follow the week, with specific dates and times to follow.

Communication

If you wish to talk to me regarding any aspect of your child's schooling please feel free to briefly chat to me at the start or end of the school day or email the school office and I will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

Diary Dates – (first half term)

Meet the Staff meeting: 9.00 – 9.20am, Wednesday 6th September.

I look forward to working with you to support your child's learning this year.

Kindest regards,

Mr Goller