



Newnham News

Friday 20 December 2024

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

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Dear parents/carers,

Delightful is my word of the week. For me, it has been a perfect end to a long term. The ever-darkening skies of autumn can combine with the length of the term to make the last week a challenging one for everyone.

However, the ether had different plans this time. Teachers had organised things perfectly so that the hard-lifting had been completed last week and the learning this week was inter-sprinkled with lots of the wonderful things that make primary life a joy. You can read more about those activities and fun below.

Everyone in school would like to thank you for your kind messages and gifts this week. We would also like to wish you all a happy break, whatever your plans, and look forward to welcoming you back for a successful and ever-brightening 2025 on Tuesday 7th January.

Kind regards

Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

Back to school

Tues 7 Jan 2025

Please check the school calendar on our website, which is updated regularly.

Whole school news

Thank you Co-op

Ms Noble, Mrs Harper, Ms Rolph and our new catering assistant Mr Sellick cooked up a storm on Tuesday for all of the children and staff who had Christmas lunch. They ate turkey, ham and all the trimmings freshly made that morning (no mean feat for 200 children!) and dessert was Yule log, which was kindly donated by our local Co-op, so thank you kitchen and thank you Co-op.

School Meals

The weekly menu is attached. The menu after the Christmas break will be Week 1. The cost of a school meal from next term will be £2.65.

Fundraising

An update on your fundraising efforts this term - £276.89 was raised for Children in Need on 15 November and Christmas

Jumper Day on 12 December raised £87.52 for Save the Children - so thank you for your generosity.

Classroom news

Reception

Reception has had a very festive, final week. Lots of singing and dancing performances took place; Christmas lunch; a whole school craft morning; and creating Christmas star decorations during Busy Fingers. To begin with, Reception performed in the KS1 and Early Years Christmas concert twice and did a brilliant



job. It was their first time on stage at Newnham Croft and they sang and danced brilliantly. Reception also took part in the whole school festive singalong and did a fantastic job! We also had Christmas lunch, which went down a

treat. The children enjoyed every mouthful, especially the chocolate yule log. The whole school craft morning was organised into student council groups and everyone made two pieces of festive crafts, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Lastly, the children finished making their star decorations to be hung up on a tree or somewhere nice in their home. Well done Reception for an absolutely amazing first term. You've all settled in so well and the Reception team are very proud of you all. Have a wonderful rest over the holidays!

Year 1

To end the week of festivities and an English module on writing and following instructions, the children in Year 1 had a woodland party. Over the week, the children made woodland animal masks of characters from the famous Gruffalo story by



Julia Donaldson. During the afternoon of the party, the class followed instructions to make 'Terrible Tusks' from the recipe book 'Gruffalo

Crumble'. Well done for a great term of learning Year 1 with lots more to come in 2025!

Year 2

This week, Year 2 wowed us all with their wonderful performance of the Christmas concert! It was such a joy to see so many parents and carers in the audience, and the children did an incredible job with their lines and singing. Not only was the play a highlight of our week, but we also had great fun during our craft morning with the school council groups and got creative in the kitchen with some festive Christmas baking. Well done, Year 2, for a fantastic term and a truly fabulous performance – we are so proud of you! Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!

Year 3

Year 3 has worked really hard throughout the week despite it being the end of a long and busy term. In maths, the children used doubling to help them work on their 2s, 4s and 8 times tables. In English lessons, we continued to base our learning on *The Snowman* by Raymond Briggs. The children worked on varying the way they started their sentences using a combination of pronouns and fronted adverbials. In DT, the children enjoyed constructing their castles and evaluating what went well and what they found difficult about their construction projects. In science, the children looked back at their unit on Food and Bodies and thought about what they had learnt and what scientific vocabulary they could now define. Thank you all for your continued support and help. Wishing you all a relaxing and stress free break.

Year 4

It has been a wonderfully festive last week. Year 4 enjoyed rehearsing and performing their Christmas song and of course Christmas lunch. We have also managed to squeeze in some place value and times tables work for maths, and a last science experiment. Making telephones was voted the favourite experiment this half term. The children enjoyed making group posters about how to speak to others and resolve problems respectfully. We also became a historical team, excavating and reporting back on the amazing Anglo Saxon finds at Sutton Hoo. Well done year 4. (No spellings this week.)

Year 5

We have had a brilliant last week of term with the school-wide excitement of Christmas lunch, festive crafts and festive singing as well as having the premiere of our films we have been working on since half term. We completed Christmas-themed SPaG and maths challenges, as well as creating our own for others to solve. We finished writing and editing our Alps travel pieces in English and, in maths, practised multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. In science, we evaluated our mould growing experiment and created information booklets about what we found out.

The start of next term is a busy one for Year 5: Bikeability will be on 13 - 16 January, then swimming lessons will start on 21 January.

Year 6

Last week on Thursday Year 6 did a MasterChef round, to improve our teamwork and cooking skills. It was very intense, since we were all running out of time. There was food and icing everywhere, and the classroom is still sticky from this challenge. All of us really enjoyed this, and we hope you like this newsletter.

By Eddie, Adam and Rafa



Year 6 carol singing around Newnham

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.