



Newnham News

Friday 27 January 2023

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Dear parents / governors,

A slightly more settled week at Newnham, although it has still been choc-full of activity.

Various classes have been out on trips - to the Botanic Gardens, swimming, the Guildhall and a small group to St Faith's School for a maths challenge.

Whilst we have had our usual assemblies for reading and celebrations, we also had a parent come in for Thursday's assembly where they spoke about what their job entailed as a TV VFX supervisor. For Monday's assembly, two of our wonderful young people helped me deliver an assembly on the Lunar New Year, sharing their experiences and talking about their very smart red jackets (in the Chinese New Year traditions the colour red helped to scare off a nian, a legendary monster).

Hopefully, you will all have seen the email about the governor vacancy. We have already had enquiries, but there is still time to register your interest before 6 February.

Enjoy the weekend,

Kind regards
Eddie Ferguson

Classroom news:

Reception

This week, Reception continued their journey with the naughty bus. The children spotted the naughty bus at different places around our school and took pictures of it and wrote captions for the pictures. The class also discussed the effect of the special formatting in the book and why those letters are printed in a certain way. To help the children to retell the story, we also drew a story map together. To mark Chinese/lunar New Year, we learnt all about when it is, what people do and how they celebrate. We also talked about other celebrations that have fireworks, such as New Year's celebrations and Bonfire Night. We watched a lion dance, tasted some tangerines and wrote messages for our wishing tree. We also learnt about the 12 zodiac animals and how to write the Chinese character for rabbit, 兔子, as it is the year of the rabbit.

Years 1 and 2

This week it was the Year 1s turn to visit the Scott Polar Museum. Our chilly walk towards Lensfield Road made the

experience all the more real and exciting, as the Year 1s learnt about how all the explorers were able to survive in such extreme conditions. The children enjoyed learning about how sleeping bags made from the skin of animals, such as seals, helped keep these explorers warm and how chocolate was and continues to be a great survival snack. Back at school, Year 1s have been using their number bonds to 10 and their knowledge of doubles to help them with adding 3 numbers together. Alternatively, the Year 2s have been exploring ordinal numbers and finished the week exploring data handling by putting data into pictograms and block charts. In English, the Year 1s have been writing a recount of their exciting trip to the Scott Polar Museum using adjectives, time connectives and the past tense. The Year 2s have started planning and writing part of Way Back Home by Oliver Jeffers as part of their quest stories module. They have been working on the past progressive form and applied this to their writing this week. In History, both year groups have learnt about Neil Armstrong and the team behind him that led to him becoming a significant explorer. The classes finished the week by thinking about what it would be like to be an astronaut in dance. Well done for a hardworking week.



Attached to the newsletter are the Year 2 number bonds to be tested next Friday and their set of spellings as worked on throughout this week.

Year 3

Year 3 have continued to enjoy learning about Rainforests. This week in our Geography session we focused on the different layers that make it up the rainforest and the animals that can be found living in them. In English sessions the children planned and started to write their own twisted versions of traditional tales. In Maths this week we have focused on the rules that apply to multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. The children really impressed at the start of the week with their improvised dances that were intended to represent the different tempos found in Saint-Saëns, The Carnival of the Animals.

Year 4

In English, we have started to write our own twisted tales, between us creating an interesting mixture of ideas, characters and twists! We learned to divide with remainders using number lines and have continued to practise our times tables by testing each other and using Times Tables Rock Stars. In Science, we explored the benefits and dangers of the Sun and how we can protect ourselves from UV light.

Year 5

Year 5 started their week off with a visit to the greenhouses in the Botanic Gardens as part of their art study of Rousseau. Using observational skills, they drew sketches of the shapes and textures they could see from the glorious greenery. In English, they planned and wrote a prequel to an adventure/mystery story based on the short story, Hunted. Maths work continued to look at decimals, using various strategies to add and subtract. In Science, they explored how the Earth's rotation causes day and night, and wrote scientific explanations of this.



Year 6

This week, Year 6 went on two exciting trips. We went to see Michael Rosen at the Corn Exchange and wrote our own poems. We also went to the glasshouses at the Botanic Gardens where we sketched some plants that are very exotic. In PE, we have been playing tag-rugby and in Music we finished our posters. In Maths, we have been making pie charts and in English, we have been writing poems about space. *By Rose and Sam*

School Meals

The menu will be week 1 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.

School Orchestra

The Newnham Croft Orchestra had their first rehearsal last week, making good headway sight reading Dvořák's Symphony No. 9 From the New World. The music room is nearly at capacity, but if your child has been playing an orchestral instrument or recorder for at least a year and would like to join, it is not too late. You can find more details and sign up here <https://forms.gle/Jtj9VHiGAHkQxYjR6>.

Music Festival

The next Music Festival will be on **Friday 3rd February** from 3.30-4.30pm in the school hall. Any child learning a musical instrument, whether privately or in school, is welcome to sign up to play to our small, friendly audience. Please sign up by Thursday 2nd February.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1gE-bdQG2HK4JWxFgf0cRszP3HeTkiQo3h0AFeljiYbE/edit?usp=sharing>

Diary Dates

Y3 and 4 to Botanic Gardens	30 Jan
Life Bus for KS2	31 Jan
NHS weighing and measuring Rec and Y6	1 Feb
Y5 swimming.....	1 Feb
Music festival 3.30-4.30pm	3 Feb
Parent teacher consultations 3.30-6.00 (not Y2)	6 Feb
Parent teacher consultations 1.30-4.00	7 Feb
Y2 Parent teacher consultations 3.30-6.00.....	8 Feb
Y5 swimming.....	8 Feb
Half term.....	13-17 Feb
Whole class group photos	22 Feb
Y5 swimming.....	1 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	8 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	15 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	22 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	29 Mar