



Newnham News

Friday 21 April 2023

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Dear parents/carers,

It has been lovely to see everyone back, suitably refreshed after the break.

As you can see from the classroom news, everyone has slipped seamlessly into their busy, daily routines. It's been a pleasure to walk around and see all the classes engaged with their learning. This was particularly true in Year 2, where they were locating the oceans and continents, learning that reminded me of the simple pleasure of looking at maps and atlases.

A couple of requests. Firstly, there has been some confusion around clubs. Some parents have assumed that, because their child was in a club last term, they will automatically get a place in the same club this term. This is not the case and parents should check with club leaders directly. Also, please could you ensure you pay for clubs promptly. In a busy world, it takes a frustrating amount of time to chase up those who haven't.

Secondly, one of the residents of Chedworth Street has asked if parents could leave a little more space around the parked cars. She was unable to open her boot the other morning due to a cycle blocking the way.

As always, I hope you have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards
Eddie Ferguson

Classroom news:

Reception

The sunshine has helped to get our latest class topic of 'The Wonderful Outside' to a great start. This week, the class have begun to plant flowers with the intention of attracting butterflies and ladybirds to our garden. With Mrs Fang, the children looked closely at the plants that are already in the garden, finding out their names as well as the different parts of a plant. Along with the cheerful daffodils that are on display, we have also been enjoying the lovely colour of the grape hyacinths around us.

Years 1 and 2

It has been lovely to have Key Stage One back, particularly as it's been so sunny. We have introduced the children to the new topic What a Wonderful World and in Geography the children have started to explore the five oceans by labelling

them on a world map and using a key to identify the seven continents. In Science, we looked at how to keep a plant healthy and what it needs to grow. In Maths, Year 1s have been looking at odd and even numbers, doubling and halving. In Year 2, the children have been adding and subtracting and exchanging 1s for 10s. In English, we've started recapping non-fiction texts, all classes used a Venn diagram to organise books into non-fiction, fiction or both. We then moved on to explore books containing information about mini beasts. Year 1s then sorted statements into the categories, 'always', 'sometimes' and 'never' to work out exactly what makes a text non-fiction and Year 2s labelled a piece of non-fiction to work out which parts are the title, introduction, information text, picture with caption and formal language. Well done for a hardworking week Key Stage One.

All new e-books have been added to the Big Cat Portal so please ensure that your child is reading their new book to you. Swimming for all Year 2s begins next Tuesday 25th April. Year 2s will now be tested on their times tables each Friday, so please find these attached with their usual spellings taken from words explored throughout the week.

Year 3

Year 3 have had a busy start to the new term. In our History session the children started to understand who the Vikings were and why they came to Britain. In English, we started off the week by watching a short film, The Wishgranter, and the class thought about what wishes they would like to see come true. We also had a productive session on recognising and writing sentences containing subordinating clauses. In our Maths sessions, we started the week by using of place value to help add and subtract £s and pence. Later in the week, the children worked on strategies to add and subtract near multiples of 10. In our Science session, the children labelled the parts of a flowering plant and the jobs they fulfil.

Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant return to school this term, brimming with enthusiasm and energy. We have started our new topic, Vikings, along with our class book, How to Train Your Dragon. We started our new Science topic, Plants, by making leaflets about the jobs done by the different parts of flowering plants. In Maths, we have begun looking at decimal numbers to one decimal place and their equivalent fractions. In English, we have been focusing on adverbials and ensuring that our sentences 'show, don't tell' the reader. Our English lessons are based on a short animation, The Wishgranter, so the children had a go at making their own wishes to hang in a wish tree. A wonderful first week back, well done.

Year 5

This week, Year 5 have started thinking about their class play. This has involved lots of excellent idea sharing, discussing, cooperating and compromising. They began working on their first two chosen songs in Music this week and will develop the scripts next week. In Maths, they have been measuring and drawing angles as well as considering patterns in remainders when dividing 4-digit numbers by single digits. The last swimming session was a lot of fun, involving almost all of the Leys' pool's equipment of noodles, floats, sinkers and balls!

Year 6

This week we learnt revision multiplication and revision division in Maths. In English we have started the topic of Debating. Our debating question was: Should zoo animals be let free? We have started a new topic in Geography which is Water. Also, in PE we began to play tennis. We started to make our own tunes with the app Garage Band in Music. We have also started revision groups with Mr Ferguson, Mrs Elbourne and Ms Holliday. *By Rose, Nelly and Jaen*

School Meals

The three weekly cycle of menus is attached; next week will be Week 2. 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.

Diary Dates

Y5 Thorpe Woodlands parents Q&A 3.15pm 24 Apr
Y3 and 4 swimming 26 Apr
May Day bank holiday – school closed..... 1 May
Y5 to Thorpe Woodlands.....3-4 May
Y3 and 4 swimming 3 May
Coronation bank holiday – school closed..... 8 May
Y4 to Grafham Water 11-12 May
Half term week.....29 May - 2 June
Staff training day – school closed..... 5 May

COMMUNITY NEWS

Coton Cricket Club - Junior training

Coton Cricket Club will be starting summer training now. Sessions focus on learning the skills of batting, throwing, catching and bowling in a fun environment. Older age groups play matches against other teams. Please register your interest now to ensure a place for training on Saturday mornings - available for girls and boys in years 1-6. Email Tom Smith at juniors@coton.cricket

Maths/Science Problem Solving Club

At school 08:00-08:40am Wednesdays during term. It is aimed at Y4-6 children, though Y1-3 siblings are welcome. Starting from 26th April, 10 sessions, £100, deduct cost, money will be donated to school. Contact: Yudan Ren, yudan.ren@protonmail.com

Master's Student Survey

I am a Master's student studying an MPhil in Bioscience Enterprise at Cambridge and I am conducting a research project for my dissertation on parents' perspectives on their child's mental health. The survey is titled "Are parents thinking about their children's mental health?" This is a quick survey that should not take more than 10 minutes to answer. I am interested in gathering information on parents' attitudes toward mental health challenges and the potential interventions they would be willing to take. If you feel able to participate the link is below: With thanks in advance. <https://forms.gle/LthMC9SRyhE9F8aJ8>