

# Newnham Croft Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr E Ferguson



**Tuesday 2 September 2025**

## **Autumn term – Reception**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Reception at Newnham Croft School. We are delighted to have your child as a member of our class and are looking forward to a wonderful school year ahead.

Here are a few details of the term, which you may find helpful but please do ask any of the adults for further information:

This half term we will focus on the topic '*Me and My School*' to help with transition. We will also be linking much of our learning to the book *Owl Babies* by Martin Waddell and *Ruby's Worry* by Tom Percival. Please do not read these books with your children just yet, as we want to keep an element of suspense and surprise! We will inform you on ClassDojo (an app we use to communicate with Reception parents) when we start a new topic.

### **Teaching Staff**

There will be several members of staff involved with your child's learning:

Miss Wakelen (Class Teacher): Monday to Friday

Miss Blake (Nursery Nurse): Monday to Friday

The class will also have Mrs Onatskaia for music on Mondays.

### **Morning Routine**

The gates will open at 8.30am. The children will line up with us in the same place everyday and the first bell will ring at 8.45am and that is time to say goodbye to your child and leave the playground. The second bell will ring and once the school is quiet, we will start to make our way into the classroom. We would like to encourage all parents to make the drop off time as swift as possible, as it makes separating from parents a less prolonged process for any children that might be anxious as well as fostering independence. If you arrive at school after 8.45am then please enter the school through the office where you will need to sign your child in.

### **Afternoon Routine**

For the pick up at the end of the day at 3.15 pm, we would like you to come to the computer suite door by the hall. Please make yourself known to the adult dismissing the children and remember to collect packed lunch boxes from the trolley each day.

### **Dress Code**

It is school policy that all children wear appropriate clothing to enable them to participate fully in all school activities, including learning outside. This means that children will be wearing active-wear in school to enable to move freely and safely at playtimes and during active learning sessions. We do not change for PE lessons as we hope they will be suitably dressed at all times.

Active-wear is defined as:

- Clothing that is flexible and suitable for movement and activity.
- Clothing that is safe for climbing and use on play equipment
- Footwear - Trainers, or shoes similar to trainers, are ideal as active school footwear. Wellies, walking boots, plimsolls and sandals can be dangerous if worn when running about.

### **Spare Clothes**

If your child does have a toileting accident at school, could you please ensure that clothes borrowed from school are washed and returned.

### **Jewellery**

The children should not wear any jewellery to school including pierced earrings but they may wear watches. Please note that watches must be removed for P.E.

### **Class Dojo**

You will be given details on how to sign up for Class Dojo. This app is where you will find information about current learning, giving you the opportunity to discuss with your child what they have been doing at school. We will also add reminders on here about upcoming events, so please do check in frequently.

### **Snacks and Water Bottles**

You do not need to provide a snack at playtime as the children will receive a piece of fruit or vegetable everyday as part of our healthy schools initiative. Please continue to send your child's labelled water bottle to school each day. Drinking water regularly during the day helps to keep children well hydrated.

### **Lunch**

If your child is having a packed lunch on a particular day, you and your child should put their clearly named lunchbox on the trolley outside the hall in the morning. We are a 'Healthy School' and packed lunches should reflect this, so no sweets please. Also, it is important that your child knows whether they are having a packed lunch or school dinner so it would be helpful if you could remind them. Do not forget school dinners are free for all children in Reception and Key Stage 1. If you think you might be entitled to Pupil Premium please use the link on the school website for more information.

### **After School Club**

Snacks for after school club should be placed in the box at the main entrance gate.

### **Nut Allergy**

We would like to thank you all for your consideration and support in making our school a nut free zone.

### **Early Years Curriculum workshop**

We run a workshop for parents each year regarding the teaching of phonics and maths at Newnham Croft. This year we will be running the session on Monday 22nd September at 9.15 am in the school hall.

### **Reading**

Reading is one of the key components of the curriculum and opens the door to so many experiences and possibilities. We would like to prioritise reading and would like you to read with your child every day. Once we start our phonics sessions we will send home books for your child to share. These will include both ebooks and paper books. More details, including logins for the ebooks will be shared shortly. We will be talking in class about the importance of reading at home on a daily basis. It would be beneficial for your child if he/she could read and be read to for about ten minutes every day. To further encouragement for the children, each child will receive a certificate on completion of each 50 home reading sessions (these can be written in the reading log sheets).

Guidance will be given about this during our phonics/maths workshop.

### **Dates for Your Diary**

- Whole school flu vaccination – Tuesday 16 September – more information coming from office soon
- Harvest festival assembly – Friday 10 October - approximately 9am
- Individual photographs – Thursday 16 October
- Parent Consultations: Week beginning 20 October – details on booking will follow closer to the time.

Please keep an eye on the [school calendar](#) which updated regularly and read our weekly newsletter, which is sent on Friday afternoons.

### **Medications**

If your child requires medication to be kept at school (e.g. an inhaler) please ensure these are brought to school in the original packaging, with the pharmacy label showing your child's name. If your child requires medication such as antibiotics or painkillers, please bring to the school office and fill in a form to allow us to administer this medication.

Thank you for your support in making such a positive and happy start to your child's school year.

Kindest Regards,

Katie Wakelen  
(Class Teacher)

Sarah Blake  
(Nursery Nurse)