



Newnham News

Friday 7 November 2025

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

[NET donation link](#)

Dear Parents/Carers,

As always, this is a week of adjustment. On one side of half term, it feels as though there is still daylight in the world; on the other, with the clocks now back, daylight becomes a rare and precious commodity — glimpsed gratefully during break or lunch duties.

Not that the shortening days have slowed the pace of school life. From parent visitors to PTA meetings, girls' rugby taster days to the Year 5 and 6 Ancient Greek celebration, there has been plenty for everyone to enjoy.

And all the while, the legendary Newnham Croft fireworks await as an exclamation mark at the end of the week.

Enjoy the Classroom News, and I look forward to seeing many of you on Saturday at the fireworks. I believe there are still a few tickets available — if you'd like to come, please click on the link in the PTA section below.

I hope you all enjoy the weekend.

Kind regards,
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

Y6 swimming - bring PJs	Tues 11 Nov
Children in Need	Fri 14 Nov
Y3 forest school	Fri 14 Nov
Y4 forest school	Fri 14 Nov
Y6 restaurant	Fri 14 Nov

Coming up.....	
Y5/6 cross country	Thu 20 Nov
PTA Xmas tree pick up	5 & 6 Dec
Y3/4 trip to Fitzwilliam Museum	Tues 9 Dec
Christmas Jumper Day	Thu 11 Dec
Rec & KS1 festive show <i>details coming next week</i>	16 & 17 Dec
Festive Singalong	3pm Thu 18 Dec

Please check the school calendar on our [website](#), which is updated regularly.

Whole school news

Children in Need – Friday, 15th November

Next Friday is Children in Need, the BBC charity event that raises money to support disadvantaged children and young people across the UK. This year's theme is "Challenge Yourself to 25!" In school, classes will be talking more about their challenges on Monday. Children are welcome to bring a donation into school on Friday, whether or not they complete their challenge. Donations can also be made on SchoolGateway. Thank you for your support!

EIFA newsletter and workshops

Please see the attached files from the Education and Inclusion Family Adviser.

School Meals

The weekly menu is attached and [online](#). The menu when we return after half term will be Week 1. The cost of a school meal is £2.75.

Classroom news

Reception

It's been a busy start to the week in Reception with two exciting days of balance bike training! The children showed great determination and balance as they practised their cycling skills. In phonics, we have been learning the phonemes h, b, f, and l, and the children are becoming more confident at recognising and using these sounds in their reading and writing. We also learned all about fireworks and why we celebrate November 5th. The children discussed firework safety and shared how we can stay safe when watching fireworks. We created some beautiful firework pictures— it was lots of fun and very colourful!

Year 1

We have jumped straight into our new English theme, *Traditional Tales*, to begin this half term. Our first book is *The Three Billy Goats*, retold by Mac Barnett and illustrated by Jon Klassen. If you haven't read this version already, Year 1 highly recommends it! The children have loved bringing the story to life through role play and writing their own character descriptions, using exciting adjectives and full sentences. We've also talked about how, in many traditional tales, animals live very human lives — crossing bridges, talking, and even outsmarting trolls! It's been wonderful to see everyone so engaged and sharing their own favourite stories

Year 2

In English this week, we explored the world of non-fiction, discovering key features and building our own glossaries with new vocabulary. Maths got hands-on as we compared, estimated and measured capacity using litres and millilitres. In science, we investigated what makes something a living thing, while in history we stepped back in time to see how schools have changed, creating our own timelines and comparing primary sources. In computing we started to learn how to take clear photographs and played photography bingo to test our skills. In art, we experimented with a variety of drawing techniques and mediums, and in RE we shared and compared thoughtful ideas about the meaning of candles.

Year 3

Year 3 have had a great first week back and have really impressed me with their enthusiasm for our new topic based on Ancient Egypt. In our maths lessons, we have focused on the children's understanding of what the bottom and top number of a fraction represents and finding out equivalent fractions for $\frac{1}{2}$ and a $\frac{1}{4}$. In English sessions, the children started to write their non-chronological reports on barn owls and think about different ways of starting their sentences so as to avoid repetition. In our history session the children discussed what the word ancient civilisation means and what questioning skills historians would use when looking at primary sources of information.

Please note in the calendar that Y3 and Y4 will be visiting the Fitzwilliam Museum on Tuesday 9 December. Please ensure your child is dressed suitably for the weather and has a packed lunch and water bottle on that day.

Year 4

This week in maths, we looked at how we can use different number lines to position 3 and 4 digit numbers. We also learned how to interpret and read pictograms and then revised the 24-hour clocks and am/pm. In English we learnt about *The Willow Pattern* story and read a narrative poem by Tony Mitton. Spellings this week all end in -ation which changes a verb to a noun e.g. donate -> donation. We began our new history topic, Ancient Egypt, by looking at what is meant by an ancient civilisation, the difference between primary and secondary sources and what questions we can ask about historical sources to learn more about their origins.

Please note in the calendar that Y3 and Y4 will be visiting the Fitzwilliam Museum on Tuesday 9 December. Please ensure your child is dressed suitably for the weather and has a packed lunch and water bottle on that day.

Year 5

Year 5 has had a fantastic week filled with energy, learning, and fun activities. They celebrated Greek Morning, joined in running club and girls' rugby, and enjoyed a special visit from Mr Whitehead, who spoke to Years 5 and 6 about Ancient Greece. In geography, they began their new topic *Deserts*, learning about the features of a hot biome. In English, they explored *The Walrus and the Carpenter*, focusing on fronted adverbials. In



maths, they worked on converting improper fractions, and comparing and ordering fractions. Greek Morning was a highlight, with Olympic sports, short plays, and a delicious

selection of Greek food to finish the week.

Year 6

During this eventful week, many things have happened. First of all (and probably the most exciting thing) is the Greek celebrations! We started the day off with the actual sports. There was javelin, hurdles, three-legged race and relay race chosen by the Olympic committee. After all the chaos of the games, we watched some Greek themed plays by some year fives and sixes. They were quite entertaining. Finally, we finished the celebration with some Greek food. We also had some olive oil with our food. Additionally, everyone won the cup for the games. That's all for the exciting part of the week.

By Ahyun

PTA news

Fireworks Night

The PTA warmly invite everyone to fireworks night on **Saturday 8 November** - Here is the link for the tickets: <https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/1371970892>

🌲 Get your Christmas tree from Newnham Croft this year! 🌲

Buy your freshly cut Christmas tree from Newnham Croft this year to support the PTA (and a local farm!). Order your tree via Classlist by 26 November for collection from the school from 3:15-3:30 on 5 Dec, or 9:00-12:30 on 6 Dec. Please share the link with your neighbours and local friends and family - the more trees we sell, the more funds we raise for our school!

<https://bit.ly/NewnhamCroftXmasTree>

Community news

Local girls rugby

🌟 Join CRUFC Rubies Girls Rugby!

Our sessions run every Wednesday evening at 6pm, and they're open to all abilities – whether completely new to rugby or already playing. The focus is on fun, friendship, and building confidence in a friendly, inclusive environment.

🌹 Special Event – Train with an England Red Rose!

We're thrilled to announce that Sydney Gregson, one of the England Red Roses, will be joining us on Saturday 16th November from 2pm–4pm for a special training session with the girls! It's an amazing chance to meet and train alongside an

England international player — we'd love to see as many of you there as possible. Find out more about Sydney here: [Sydney Gregson on Instagram](#).



Regular Session Details:



When: Wednesday evenings at **6pm**



Where: Cambridge Rugby Club, Grantchester Road, CB3 9ED



Ages: 7-18



Contact: rubies@cambridgerugby.co.uk



Find out more: <https://cambridgerugby.co.uk/girls-rugby/>

The first few sessions are completely free, so it's the perfect opportunity to come along, give rugby a try, and be part of something special.