



# Newnham News

Friday 27 September 2024

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

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## Whole school news

Dear parents/carers,

I did think I might just recycle a few passages from previous newsletters that mentioned the inexcusable weather. Then I spoke to one of the PTA volunteers organising the fireworks and we felt that getting the rain out the way now was actually a sensible policy. So fine - no weather.

As I am not an imaginative person, and my whole world is filled with the rain, I will therefore leave you to enjoy the class news this week.

*\* Apart from another reminder to be thoughtful and careful when travelling near to school. This morning, more than one parent mentioned a car that parked in the middle of the junction at the top of Chedworth Street and opened a door into the path of passing cyclists. This, in spite of there being spaces further up and down Grantchester Street.*

*If all our lovely parents - pedestrians, cyclists and drivers - can try and remember that we are all in this together (whether that be life, jobs, parenting or getting wet) and find the gentleness and thoughtfulness that accompanies that camaraderie, then 't would be a more pleasant start to everyone's day. \**

I hope your weekends are all that you want them to be.

Kind regards  
Edward Ferguson

### Diary Dates

Y6 swimming	(and every Tues)	Tues 1 Oct
Y5 & 6 trip to Bletchley Park		Thurs 3 Oct
PTA barn dance		Fri 4 Oct
Harvest assembly (parents welcome)	9 - 10am	Mon 7 Oct
Year 4 forest school	morning	Fri 11 Oct
Year 1 forest school	afternoon	Fri 11 Oct
Open afternoon	3.15 - 4.00pm	Mon 14 Oct

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

### Language of the month

The month we are looking at Korean - see the attached file with the first words we have learned.

### Food at school

Please remember when bringing snacks or packed lunches to school to avoid bringing nuts, kiwi and sesame. Also we are a healthy school so morning snack should not be sweets, chocolate or crisps.

### Parent consultations

You should have received an invitation to book an appointment for a parent consultation with your child's teacher. If you have not done so already, please login to e-schools [here](#) to do so. If you have any issues with logging in, please get in touch with the office. Parents of children on the SEN register should make a separate appointment with their class teacher by contacting them directly or through the office.

### Lunchtime supervisor

We would very much like to hear from anyone who might like to work in school as a lunchtime supervisor. The hours are 11.45 am - 1.15 pm, two to five days a week. The pay is £11.79 per hour. This is a lovely job involving facilitating and supervising the children's play outside, encouraging them to eat our delicious school dinners and a little bit of sweeping up and wiping tables. If you are interested please contact the office 01223 508737 or [office@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk)

### School Meals

The weekly menu is attached. The menu next week will be Week 1. The cost of a school meal is £2.50.

## Classroom news

### Reception

We've had a very busy, if not wet week in Reception. We had our first few sessions of phonics and looked at the phonemes: s, t, a and p. All children practised writing out these graphemes. For the grapheme a, they used the mnemonic, "around the astronaut's helmet and down into space." Reception went to their first whole school assembly and enjoyed being read the story *Little Red Riding Hood* in Czech by Mrs Maio. Miss Blake, Mrs Cummins and I have been so impressed with how well Reception has settled into

the rhythm and routine of Newnham Croft. Well done for a brilliant second full week.

### Year 1

Year 1 started this week off with some science. The class has been exploring their five senses and this week they looked at the sense of taste. They each had the opportunity to taste five different edible liquids, not knowing what each of them were. Overall, they established that the tastes were sweet, salty, sour, bitter and flavourless (plain). Sweet, as you can imagine, was the most popular taste and sour was quite popular too. One person enjoyed the bitter taste but salty was not enjoyed at all.

### Year 2

Another busy week in Year 2. We have enjoyed more traditional tales and started to learn the story of the *Three Little Pigs*. In maths we have been consolidating our number bonds to 10 and then to 20. In DT the children have designed their backgrounds for a moving story book. In geography we have been learning about direction using a compass. Please remember to return reading books on a Wednesday and library books on a Friday. Thank you.

### Year 3

Year 3 has worked really hard this week. In maths the children learnt how to add different coins together and represent totals using pounds and pence (115p = £1.15). They also used place value to solve addition and subtraction problems  $£4.35 + \text{_____} = £4.65$  and  $£8.73 - \text{_____}p = £8.03$ . In English the children planned and started to write their own set of instructions on how to wash a woolly mammoth. In science the children enjoyed learning about the rock cycle and what different properties geologists use to sort them. In history the children started to recognise clues and make suggestions about what some of the stone age settlements were used for.

### Year 4

We had a fantastic trip to the Iron Age Hillfort at Wandlebury this week. We learnt all kinds of interesting facts, cooked bread and wove walls, and were amazed by the size of a roundhouse! In English we have started writing a non-chronological report about the stone age. In maths we have been looking at mental and written methods for addition.



In science we have been sorting and classifying leaves in order to identify them by their features. In art we have looked at how artists are inspired by other artists working in different

artforms, how they use their sketchbooks and how we can use our own sketchbooks. For spelling this week we have

been looking at words beginning with the prefix il-, ir- and im- as well as revising words from Year 1/2. Please see the attached list of spelling words.

### Year 5

In maths, we learned how to order, compare and add decimals to two decimal places. In English, we finished writing our stories inspired by *Cloud Tea Monkeys* and edited and proof-read them. In science, we used mirrors to explore how to reflect light and in history, we made our own gas masks, name tags and identity cards and then had the experience of being evacuated.

### Year 6

This week we pretended to be children who were evacuated to the countryside. We had to make gas masks and identity cards. We also did an arithmetic test and SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar). In French, we made French phrase books (Comment t'appell-tu? = What is your name?)

*By Omer and Thomas*

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](http://www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk).

### PTA News

#### Apple donations wanted!

The Year 6 Barn Dance Catering Company (yeehaw!) would be very grateful for donations of apples to go towards their dessert offering of apple crumble. If you have an apple tree and would be willing to send a few their way, please email [dani@meeprophone.com](mailto:dani@meeprophone.com)

**Please see attached flyer for the PTA Barn Dance on 4 October.**

### Community news

#### Messy Church at St Mark's Church

Tuesday 1st October.

St Mark's Church. 3.30-5, followed by a meal.

Craft, storytelling and activities.

This month we will be exploring the themes of creation and harvest.

All welcome!