



# Newnham News

Friday 14 June 2024

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

[NET donation link](#)

Dear parents/carers,

I'm determined not to talk about the weather, despite it being an omnipresent cloud (ha ha!) blotting out all sunshine in my existence (that may be slightly over-doing things, but you get the gist).

So instead of talking about the despicable sky, may I once again point you all in the direction of the younger members of our community - the 4-11 year olds whose approach to the weather is one that we less enlightened souls should aim to emulate:

- Living in the moment
- Taking life as it comes
- Finding joy in what is
- Accepting what can't be changed

The joy that the KS1 children took in the simple delights of walking to Grantchester Meadows on Thursday, with not a glance at the darkness above, is a lesson I need to spend more time following, rather than just marvelling at.

Hopefully, we all stayed dry and enjoyed the eco-picnic this afternoon. Thank you for organising things, Mrs Turner.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards  
Edward Ferguson

## Diary Dates

Year 6 forest school	morning	Mon 17 June
Eat lunch with your Year 4 child	12.15pm	Mon 17 June
Reception forest school	afternoon	Mon 17 June
Y2 swimming		Tues 18 June
Y3 swimming		Wed 19 June
Y4 swimming		Wed 19 June
Eat lunch with your Year 4 child	12.15pm	Wed 19 June
Reception new intake (2024/25) meeting	2pm	Thur 20 June

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

## Attendance

Regular attendance is a key factor in keeping our children learning and growing in school. Every term, we have a look at attendance figures as per our attendance policy and this term, 93 children had an attendance percentage lower than the expected 95%. There are, of course, various reasons for

absence and we are understanding of this, but absences do add up and can ultimately impact a child's learning. [Here](#) is the NHS advice for many common childhood illnesses, that may help you decide if your child needs to be off school.

## Summer Music Festival

We are delighted to announce our Summer Music Festival, which will take place at 6.30pm 16th July in the school hall. Featuring the Newnham Croft Orchestra, any child that is learning an instrument in school or privately is welcome to play to our friendly audience. To sign up or for more details, follow [this link](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Z1JFujPwwFywFYAEI4JjAyCbNoKtgQ2AhVh_3dBGtjM/edit?usp=sharing) [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Z1JFujPwwFywFYAEI4JjAyCbNoKtgQ2AhVh\\_3dBGtjM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Z1JFujPwwFywFYAEI4JjAyCbNoKtgQ2AhVh_3dBGtjM/edit?usp=sharing).

## Classroom news

### Reception

As part of our current topic on Journeys, Reception went to visit the local garage. We met Lee, one of the mechanics,



who showed us around his workspace, explaining about the work he carries out on customers' vehicles. It was very exciting to see the car he was

working on being raised up on the lift, ready to be examined. Lee also showed us the engines on two very damaged cars and told us about how he became a mechanic; it took quite a long time to know everything he knows. When asked, many of our class liked the idea of being mechanics and fixing things in the future.

### KS1

This week in maths, Year 2 students have been learning to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes. Year 1 has been exploring 2D and 3D shapes, experimenting with turning and positioning them. A highlight for KS1 was our field trip to Grantchester Meadows, where we explored the compelling question of whether houses should be built there. In English,

we have been crafting fact files on Henry VIII, and Year 1 students wrote great recounts of their trip. In art, KS1 students have been creating detailed drawings of flora and fauna, using a variety of mediums to bring their artwork to life. Science lessons this week involved labelling the parts of the body and explaining what their role is. Year 2 also wrote questions about the body. For PSHE, we celebrated the remarkable aspects of our bodies, writing about what makes them special. History this week saw KS1 students investigating photographs and paintings of Castle Hill, constructing timelines from past to present while using their growing historical vocabulary. Well done KS1, for a week filled with curiosity, creativity, and hard work!

### Year 3

Year 3 has worked really hard throughout the week. In maths we have focused on telling the time using analogue, digital, 12hr and 24hr clock. A link to help your child learn the time has been included in the home learning section of our school website (see top right of newsletter for link). In English sessions, the children learnt how to use a range of personal pronouns to make their writing less repetitive and learnt when to use 'a' and 'an'. In geography, the children started National Fieldwork week by following a map of the school. In class the children used the 8 points on a compass to locate various features on an OS map. Towards the end of the week the children enjoyed learning about the importance of brushing their teeth in science.

### Year 4

This week we have been reading a story called *The Seal Children* by Jackie Morris, and collecting memorable phrases we could use in our writing. In maths we have been looking at different written methods for multiplication and division and trying them out. Our multiplication facts have been very useful. In geography we have used compass points when looking at an OS map of our local area and enjoyed whole school outdoor mapwork activities for Fieldwork Fortnight. In DT we have designed our model using a pneumatic system. Don't forget to bring in a box. We have also thought about different body worries a child might have, and what advice we would give them. In science we have had an exciting time finding out about keeping teeth healthy. The attached spelling words to practise this week again contain the suffix -ous.

### Year 5

In maths, we have been looking at timetables, especially train timetables, and how to calculate time intervals. We have done this through planning journeys, organising days based on how long different tasks take and how to calculate new arrival times after a delay. In English, we compared features of formal and informal letters and analysed some historical letters by Leonardo da Vinci and Captain Robert Scott. We began our RSE topic by learning to name both internal and external body parts.

### Year 6

This week Year 6 have been prepping for the play which will take place on 27th June. We have also started making leaflet

for our history work about local history. On Thursday, we had one round of MasterChef with the theme of *International Pies*. We did really well and we had so much fun in Sketchup for computing.

By Annielle and Jomanah

### School Meals

The three weekly menu rota is attached. The menu the first week back will be Week 3. 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](http://www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk).

### PTA NEWS

Roll up roll up!

#### Newnham Croft Primary School PTA Summer Fete

**Sunday 7 July 12noon – 3pm**

Adults £4.00, children £2.00 (includes inflatable), under 2s go free\*

Inflatable slide, water balloons and face painting, Kids vs Adults football game, raffle (with prizes donated by local businesses), stalls and games, and more...

Yummy food and drink provided by Cousins, Cambridge Wine Merchant, and Crofters will be on sale.

Did we mention the ICE CREAM Sundaes?!

Bring your picnic blankets to enjoy our beautiful grounds and suncream (here's hoping).

\*All proceeds go towards the PTA for support of equipment and activities for our school and children.

P.S. We received some fabulous Summer Fete posters from the children, which we will share building up to the event. Please see attached a lovely poster by Fynn (Yr 6) to kick-start the Summer Fete sunshine vibes. Thank you Fynn!

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### HAF summer programme

Cambridgeshire County Council runs a funded summer holiday scheme and eligible children can take part in a variety of fun activities for free. See the [website](#) and attached poster for more information.

#### Cambridgeshire Libraries Reading Challenge

As you may know, every Summer Cambridgeshire Libraries challenge children and young people **aged 4 to 11** to read 6 books over the course of the Summer Holiday. Once a Challenger has read their first book, they are given a **Reading Log**, in which they can rate and **collect stickers** for each book they have read, and **complete activities** both in the log and online. Once a Challenger has read **6 or more books**, they have officially completed the Summer Reading Challenge, and will be invited to attend a **ceremony** where they will be awarded a **certificate** and a **medal** to celebrate their achievement. See [this video](#) for more information.