



Newnham News

Friday 9 December 2022

Interim Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Dear parents/carers,

Having previously mentioned the significant role the PTA and governors play in the success of the school, this week it was the turn of the kitchen and lunch staff to draw my focus and praise.

Due to a couple of the regular team being absent, I was substituted in as a late replacement as a 'front-of-shop' lunchtime supervisor. It's something I've done before, but it was good to be reminded of what it entails, for example: cutting up the food of the younger children (or cleaning up the mess after they had valiantly had a go at cutting it up themselves); averting tears when the dratted-plate-won't-stay-flat-and-my-food-is-now-on-the-floor; reminding children that the hall is for lunch, not play; reminding children that the hall is for chatting gently, not shouting loudly; encouraging the reluctant to eat some vegetables; wiping the tables of spilt food (for some, sweetcorn is extremely tricky to keep on the plate); sweeping the floor of spilt food (for some, all food seems tricky to keep on the plate); reassuring the teary over their spilt milk; taking the plates/cups/cutlery to be washed; reminding children of their Ps and Qs.

Meanwhile in the kitchen, the crescendo of activity between 12 and 1.15pm. So little space; so much loading and unloading of the dishwasher; drying, serving and remembering dietary requirements; following the million guidelines; cajoling the line to keep moving and to stop playing; burning hands on hot metal.

Today, around 180 meals were served, eaten and tidied away by 3 kitchen staff, 2 lunchtime supervisors and 180 hungry children, all within 75 minutes. It's an event that happens every day; another wonderful team helping make our school what it is.

Have a lovely weekend,
Kind regards, Eddie Ferguson

Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children

Thanks to everyone who donated – at the time of writing we have raised over £200.

After school clubs

Many of the clubs have finished for this term, but those continuing for one more week are: dance, cookery (Monday and Thursday only), Chinese, tennis, multisports, dodgeball, Spanish, basketball and DT.

Classroom news:

Reception

Reception have been thinking about places that are special to us. So, on Monday morning, we took a walk to St Mark's Church on Barton Road. We talked about how churches are special places of worship for Christians and it was a particularly exciting time of year to visit as one of the church helpers was about to put up the Christmas tree. We saw stained glass windows, an altar and seating for many people. When we got back to school, we discussed other places that are special to us. Some children said that church was a special place for them but there were also many other thoughts. For example, Niki said that the seaside is special to him as it is a place he can relax.



Years 1 and 2

Key Stage One have had an exciting week preparing for the Christmas production. We have been learning and practising lots of festive songs and dance routines in preparation for next week's performances. A reminder to all parents that if they could send their child to school on Monday and Tuesday wearing a Christmas jumper or T-shirt, ready for their performances on those days. In English, we've been looking at some poetry and comparing two poems, one written by Grace Nichols and the other written by Christina Rossetti. The classes discussed what the poem was about and looked at the rhyming words. In Maths, Year 2 have been working on multiplication and division and exploring the inverse relationship between the two operations. They learnt that groups of numbers equate to multiplication and sharing large numbers is how we work out division. In SPAG, Year 2s have been learning about adjectives while Year 1s have been applying their knowledge of their Phase 5 sounds by reading

different sounds, tricky words and sentences to their teachers. The Year 1s have been recapping their number bonds to 10 and 20 and revising one more and one less. Well done for a really hard working week Key Stage One. Please find attached more spellings for the Year 2s to practise.

Year 3

Year 3 have worked incredibly hard this week on their end of term assessments. In our Maths sessions, we have focused on adding and subtracting near multiples of 10 from 3-digit numbers. In our English lessons the children have worked on how to record direct speech and to extend their sentences using a range of different conjunctions. The children really enjoyed learning how to write using Anglo-Saxon runes in our History session. In Science the children investigated which materials best absorbed sound made by a noisy rock band.

Year 4

Year 4 have been busy this week, working hard on their assessments as well as learning a new Christmas song. In Science, they conducted an experiment into soundproofing, exploring which material was most effective at absorbing sound. In English, we have been practising using causal and time conjunctions and have continued to enjoy Michael Rosen's poetry.

Year 5

In English, Year 5 have moved on from animal migration to look at human migration, reading extracts from Floella Benjamin's 'Coming to England' and exploring her personal emotions as she made her journey from Trinidad to London. We explored the challenges she, and others of the Windrush Generation, faced as they settled into a new country. In PSHE we have concluded our work on anti-bullying by challenging any preconceived ideas and stereotypes. We have considered cyberbullying and how we manage our online behaviour, knowing what to do if we come across negative behaviour when using technology. The class have also worked hard on their termly assessments and demonstrated their understanding of Maths and reading ability.

Year 6

This week some Year 5 and Year 6 pupils went to a dodgeball and table tennis tournament. We were split into two teams and overall we had a fun time. We won dodgeball and in the individual table tennis competition some of us won medals. For our WW2 topic Year 6 are learning about the influences, daily lives and causes of WW2. *By Shamsher, Henry, Robyn and Danielle*

School Meals

The menu will be week 2 of the menu cycle (attached). The cost of a school meal is £2.50. Please note that on Tuesday 20 December the kitchen will be serving a traditional Christmas dinner (turkey or vegetarian wellington).

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

Rec & KSI production 2pm	12 Dec
Rec & KSI production 9.30am.....	13 Dec
Rec NHS Vision Screening 9am.....	19 Dec
School Christmas lunch	20 Dec
Festive singing 3.20pm.....	20 Dec
Last day of term	21 Dec

PTA

Treat Stall

Year 4 are hosting the next Treat Stall on Friday 16th December, 3.15pm, selling baked goods, fruit, breadsticks and other goodies (food will not contain nuts, sesame or kiwi). Bring a coin or two to buy a treat as we head into the weekend. Proceeds go to the PTA.