



Newnham News

Friday 16 October 2026

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Crime and punishment, carrot or stick. Always a difficult balancing act.

Often, if our child is hurt or upset by a peer, our natural reaction as a parent is to seek some form of retribution, something that feels like justice. This is absolutely understandable - it's our child; it is ALWAYS personal.

For the staff, however, it must always be a professional response. To consider what is in the best interests of the child, children, class and school.

In primary school, I have always found it difficult to make the case for deliberate, evil intentions by a child. They are so young, so new and fresh, that it seems more likely they are exploring different personas and styles, or reflecting the complications of their mood, home life etc. etc..

Alongside that, there are the needs of the victim. A natural sense of justice seems built into our genes, even from a young age, and it is not in the victim's best interests to feel that injustice is not met with consequence.

In school we always seek to find a consequence that helps the perpetrator learn from their mistake, to develop that empathy that was missing in their action. But sometimes, the consequence must also be more visible than those which serve that initial purpose - a consequence that satisfies the sense of justice.

Obviously, this is so complicated, so nuanced, so infinitely varying and multi-faceted, that I can only touch on it here. Which is what I've done.

Thank you for reading my thoughts for this week. Have happy weekends!

Kind regards
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

Year 5 bikeability		Mon - Thurs
Parent consultations	3.30 - 6pm	Mon 19 Oct
Parent consultations	1.30 - 3pm	Tues 20 Oct
	3.30 - 5pm	Tues 20 Oct
Y6 swimming		Wed 21 Oct
Y5/6 cross country		Fri 23 Oct
Please check the school calendar on our website , which is updated regularly.		

Whole school news

Parent consultations

You should have received an invitation to book your parent consultation with the class teacher from eSchools. If you are struggling to book, please contact the office.

Amazon wish list

The school has created an [Amazon wish list](#) of items that we were hoping some parents might be happy to purchase. Some are requests from the children's Eco committee (bulbs and litter picking) and some are for Reception and Year 1 (audio stories stuff).

Book fair

Thank you for visiting our book fair - you bought so many books that we now have £500 to spend on books for the school! If you didn't manage to make your payment, please contact the office.

School Meals

The menu is attached and [online](#). The menu next week is Week 2. The cost of a school meal is £2.90.

Classroom news

Reception

It's been another exciting week in Reception! In maths, we have been exploring one more and one less through practical, hands-on activities. Ask your child all about our imaginary bus journey to the beach and how we used it to practise our counting skills! In PE, we focused on developing our balance and travelling skills, exploring

different ways to move our bodies and travel safely through space. There was also lots of excitement in Phonics this week as we learnt our very first digraph! The children have taken an exciting step in their phonics journey, learning that two letters can work together to make one sound.

A few reminders for parents and carers:

As the weather is very changeable at the moment, please ensure your child brings a waterproof jacket to school every day so we can enjoy outdoor learning whatever the weather. Please also remember to bring book bags every Thursday, containing your child's home folder and any library books that need to be returned. Thank you so much for your continued support!

Year 1

This week, Year 1 has been busy writing alternative endings to *Puffin Peter*, using their imaginations to think about what might happen next in the story. The children were very proud to share their creative endings with the Year 2 class! We also have an exciting update on our missing puffin! After the children created missing posters last week and displayed them around the school, Mr Goller has spotted something that he thinks looks rather like a puffin! As a keen bird spotter, he should know! Could this be a clue to solving the mystery? We will keep you updated on our search!

Year 2

This week, we visited Reception to share our alternative endings to *The Three Little Pigs*. We also began our poetry unit, performing poems and exploring expression and actions. We wrote autumn poems using noun phrases and commas in a list. In Maths, we measured accurately using centimetres and metres and explored weight, comparing objects and reading scales to the nearest 100g. In DT, we completed our moving monsters. In Gymnastics, we practised performing and holding balances. Well done, Year 2, for all your hard work this week!

Year 3

This week in Year 3, we explored what had changed and what had stayed the same during the Neolithic and Iron Age periods. In Art, the children thoroughly enjoyed bringing their favourite book characters to life by creating their own plasticine models, based on the sketches they had previously drawn. In Maths, the children created their own pictograms to represent birthdays in the class. They also learnt to identify the number of days in each month of the year. In English, the children learnt how to write complex sentences containing subordinating clauses. They also began planning their own alternative versions of *Stone Age Boy* by Satoshi Kitamura. Finally, a big thank

you to Yannis and Polina from the University of Cambridge, who visited us to deliver a fascinating workshop about life as an archaeologist. The children learnt about what archaeologists do and how their work helps us understand life during the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. Well done, Year 3, for another fantastic week of learning!

Year 4

Year 4 have continued to impress us with their effort and growing independence when solving problems and improving their work. They began writing their own instructions which will be published as a class book. In maths, we have been developing verbal and written reasoning skills. We've also been practising times tables in lots of different ways. In art the children worked collaboratively to begin their narrative drawings inspired by prehistoric art. It was wonderful to see great teamwork, sharing of ideas and creativity from every child.

In maths, we continued to practise converting between 12-hour and 24-hour clocks and calculating time intervals. We then started applying these skills to answering questions about train timetables. In English, we planned our Grimwood inspired short stories and began writing them. In science, we looked at how climate change is impacting the water cycle.

Year 5

Year 5 have continued our unit of work on poetry and begun researching which ingredients would be best to include in our cereal bars, ready to make them next week. In maths, we have been exploring improper fractions and mixed numbers, as well as finding equivalent fractions. In English, we studied *In Flanders Fields* by John McCrae and used the imagery in the poem to write expanded noun phrases. In history, we explored diary extracts from Anne Frank. The children extracted information about the Secret Annex, where Anne and her family hid during the Second World War. Next week, we have Bikeability and cross country to look forward to! Please ensure that children bring their bikes and helmets on Monday 19th October. Everyone will also need to wear suitable sportswear and good trainers for both activities. Well done for another great week, Year 5!

Year 6

This week in Y6 we have been doing many things, but our favourites were starting our DT project on cereal bars. We even got to taste some cereal bars! In history we looked at Anne Frank and the Holocaust. We are thrilled to inform you that our interviews are done and we have started our non-fiction adventure stories based on the parents who came in. We have been finishing our propaganda posters

and Black History Month posters. In maths we have just started short division/bus stop.

By Philippos, Harry and Alexander

PTA news

Save the date No.1 - The next PTA meeting, which will be the AGM, will take place on **Thursday 19 November**.

Save the date No.2 - Bonfire Night will take place on **Saturday 7 November**. Further details will follow.

Please also see the attached poster about the types, timings and cost of the **PTA Christmas Trees** this year.

Community news

Scouts community food drive

For Halloween this year, the Newnham Scout group will be spending the evening collecting food donations for the homeless and those in need (for both Jimmy's Cambridge and the Cambridge Food Bank), rather than getting sweets for themselves. We are seeking donations from the Newnham community. Please note that we can only accept non-perishable, ambient food that is in-date. In mid-October, orange leaflets will be placed through the letterbox in our collection zone (roughly described as Barton Road, the area south of Barton Road, Barton Close, and the Gough Way area).

We will collect donations between 18:00 and 20:00 on 2nd November. Please attach the leaflet to your donation and leave it visible from the road, or attach the leaflet to your door or window if you prefer us to knock to collect donations. Between 18:00 and 20:30, we will accept donations dropped off at Newnham Scout and Guide HQ, Chedworth Street, CB3 9JF.

For more information, please see <https://www.newnhamscouts.org.uk/community-service/trick-or-eat> or contact trick-or-eat@newnhamscouts.org.uk.

Community news

Future champions grant

See the attached leaflet for more information on a grant for local athletes.

Christmas singing course

See the attached poster for details on a Christmas singing course by The Oxford and Cambridge Singing School.



www.trumpingtonkidsclotheshub.co.uk

Pop Up 'Pick Your Own' Children's Clothes Stall!

FREE Children's Clothes For All!

Ages 2-12 years **Saturday 17th October 10.30 - 12.00** **Donations Of Children's Clothing Age 2-12 Years Accepted**

**Trumpington Sport
Trumpington Community**

Bring A Friend! **Lim Avenue CB2 9HB** **Everyone Welcome!**

With Thanks To Our Sponsor And Supporters For This Event



Trumpington Sport

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TRUMPINGTON
PARISH
MEETING**



Wildlife Trust for
Beds, Cambs
& Northants

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wildlifebcn



The Wildlife Trust for Beds,
Cambs and Northants

Family Owl Pellet Dissection



**Friday 30th October 2026
10am - 1pm**

Join us to dissect an owl pellet with the family at the Wildlife Trust Countryside Centre in Ramsey Heights.

Pellets have been retrieved from the Great Fen and you will discover which species our local owls have been hunting!

Prices:
Child Wildlife Trust BCN Member £5.
Non-member £7.50
Plus Eventbrite fees

Location:
Wildlife Trust Countryside Centre,
Chapel Road, Ramsey Heights,
PE26 2RS

Book online: wildlifebcn.org/events



The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire, The Manor House, Broad Street, Camboorne, CB23 6DH Tel: 01954 713500 Email: cambridgeshire@wildlifebcn.org Registered charity No. 1000412