



Newnham News

Friday 13 January 2023

Interim Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Dear parents/carers,

While parenting/caring is sometimes the yin of sunshine and butterflies, it seems a necessity of the cosmos that there is sometimes the yang of thunder and dragons.

When the challenges come, it can be difficult to find the help or advice that's on offer in the local area. Obviously, the school is here to help as much as we can; we have contacts with other agencies and groups, both local authority-based and beyond, who can support you in a variety of ways. Certainly, we would hope that, if you are concerned about your child in any way, you feel you can come and speak to us (no matter how busy we look); the more we know, the more we can help and support.

Beyond school, there are various groups aimed at supporting parents, two of which I mention below.

The first is a group called Pinpoint, who are a local Parent/Carer Forum and hub offering information, signposting and events for all things SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) or if you just feel your child is struggling. Please see the attached poster for more information.

The second is a new hub called i3parent hub (<https://i3parenthub.org/>) that aims to provide a wide range of creative, innovative and inclusive, educational and support programmes for parents and carers, while at the same time providing an avenue for parents and carers to simply hang-out and socialise with other families. The hub is based in Cambridge (at Netherhall school, although they are not affiliated) and while it has predominantly worked at secondary level, it is very keen to reach out to parents of primary-aged children.

Being in charge of a child or children can be lonely and bewildering but rest assured, there is help out there.

As for the week in school, you can read below about all the learning, fun and soginess. I hope you enjoy your weekend,

Kind regards, Eddie Ferguson

After a lengthy absence, the **language of the month** is making a comeback. This month, we will be greeting each other in Japanese, as well as trying out other phrases as detailed in the attachment. Please remind Mr Ferguson on the gate if he forgets and says 'Good Morning'.

Classroom news:

Reception

Reception have enjoyed their first full week back. We have started our class book, Naughty Bus by Jan and Jerry Oke, and followed the adventure of this mischievous bus and talked about our favourite picture from the book. In Maths, the children have been practising counting and learning about estimation. They have also learnt about road safety and had a short walk to the local garage. As the topic of the term is Journeys and Transport, by visiting the garage the children found out how a car can be lifted up and down for the car mechanic to check it, had a look at different tools and equipment and also saw the engine.

Years 1 and 2

It's been lovely to have all of Key Stage One back and ready for a new term. This week in Maths, Year 1s have been partitioning 2-digit numbers and adding multiples of ten, while the Year 2s have been working on their place value by adding 2 digits together, by adding the tens and then the ones. They have also been working on near multiples of ten by working out which 2-digit numbers are closest to which tens and then adding those numbers together. They finished the week by looking at turns (clockwise and anti-clockwise). In English, Year 1s have learnt the story, One Winter's Day and have been retelling it, using puppets. Year 2s have been looking at the Oliver Jeffers story, Lost and Found. They sequenced the story, explored inference and looked at the descriptive language in preparation for retelling it. In Science, all of Key Stage One are looking at items which are 'living', 'dead' or 'never alive' and used the school grounds to find examples of these. In History, the children have studied the North Pole explorer, Matthew Henson and how he was a significant explorer as he was the first black person to reach the North Pole. Well done for a very hard-working week Key Stage One.

All e-books have been added to the Big Cat portal, so please ensure that you are reading the book that your child has been reading at school. The Key Stage One mock assessments, (reading and maths) which Year 2s completed just before Christmas, will be sent home on Monday for all parents to look at and work on if they wish. These will pre-empt the Key Stage One assessments in May, so any opportunity to practise these would be very beneficial for your child. The next number bond work sheet just for Year 2s is attached below for you to practise if you would like to at home, ready for next Friday's test. In addition to this, the next set of spellings explored at school are also attached, but these will not be tested.

Year 3

Year 3 have made a great start to the term and really enjoyed working on their new topic on the Amazon Rainforests. In our Geography session, the children learnt how to use an atlas to locate the countries where rainforests are found. In our Maths sessions, we have focused on using doubling and halving to multiply and divide by 2, 4 and 8. In our English sessions, the children have enjoyed listening to some well-known traditional tales and worked on some of the language that is used to describe the characters and settings that are contained within them. In our Art session, the children started to learn about the famous artist Henri Rousseau. In Computing, the children started to programme using Scratch. They learnt how to move their sprites and change their backgrounds and costumes.

Year 4

Year 4 have settled back into school really well and have enthusiastically launched themselves into our new English topic, Twisted Tales, coming up with some brilliant descriptive sentences for settings and characters. We began our new Geography topic, Rainforests, with the creation of beautiful animal collages, rainforest sketches and maps of the rainforests around the world. In Maths we have started our multiplication and division topic and have been focusing on doubling and halving using partitioning.

Year 5

This week Year 5 have started looking at a selection of short stories from a collection by Kevin Crossley-Holland. They have enjoyed guessing the genre based on the understanding of features included in different story types, have predicted endings and especially loved writing a possible conclusion to a horror story, with some pretty gruesome descriptions! Maths work has continued on measures where they've looked at measuring perimeter and area of rectangles and compound and how the area of irregular shapes can be estimated. Our PSHE unit on Diversity and Communities started with us exploring our own sense of identity and finding out about the meanings behind our names. Swimming begins for Year 5 on Wednesday 18 January. Please remember to give permission for your child to attend.

Year 6

In Maths this week, Year 6 have been learning about BODMAS. In Science, we have started a new topic on space and we are now learning about the planets. We have drawn a pastel picture of them. In Geography, we are learning about Eastern Europe and having fun finding out facts about countries in that area. *By Isabella and Nelly*

School Meals

The menu will be week 2 of the menu cycle (attached). 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.

Diary Dates

Y5 swimming.....	18 Jan
Y5 Botanic Gardens.....	23 Jan
Y6 Holocaust Memorial Day poetry talk/workshop	23 Jan
Y6 to Botanic Gardens.....	24 Jan
Y5 swimming.....	25 Jan
Y3 and 4 to Botanic Gardens.....	30 Jan
Life Bus for KS2	31 Jan
NHS weighing and measuring Rec and Y6	1 Feb
Y5 swimming.....	1 Feb
Parent teacher consultations 3.30-6.00	6 Feb
Parent teacher consultations 1.30-4.00	7 Feb
Y5 swimming.....	8 Feb
Half term.....	13-17 Feb
Whole class group photos	22 Feb
Y5 swimming.....	1 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	8 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	15 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	22 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	29 Mar