



# Newnham News

Friday 6 May 2022

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

## Attachments

- Fixed Penalty Code of Conduct
- Safer Schools Newsletter
- Lunch menu
- Family Festival flyer
- Kapla Club 13 May

Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been a week where the school has been getting out and about. We are taking the opportunities to enrich the curriculum with trips for the children; something we've really missed being able to do during the past couple of years. Year 5 have had their residential to Thorpe Woodlands, Years 3 and 4 have visited the Cambridge Folk Museum and Kettles Yard and today the Year 1 and 2 children have been out looking for plants in our local area and visiting Newnham College. Lots more on all of these things will be in the class sections of this newsletter.

In other news, we have SATs week for our Year 6 pupils next week, so it's an important week for them and we wish them all the best in demonstrating all that they've been learning. I hope they have a restful weekend and come to school on Monday refreshed and full of energy.

Lots of you will know that we are now starting to enforce the national expectations of attendance again following the resumption of normal schooling. I'm also conscious that some families have received unauthorised absence notifications for holidays taken in term time and notification of the risk of a fixed penalty for non-attendance. I thought it therefore might be helpful for parents to be given the Local Authority's Code of Conduct for issuing fixed penalties. You will find this document attached to this newsletter, and please be aware that these are now starting to be enforced. I need to remind parents that regular attendance is incredibly important to children's academic success and in ensuring that they make good progress.

Attached to this newsletter is the Cambridgeshire Constabulary Safer Schools Newsletter.

## Classroom News:

### Reception

In Reception, we have been finding out a lot of facts about spiders. We found out that not all spiders make webs and that spider silk is stronger than steel! In Maths we have been looking at different ways of making 7: 0+7, 1+6, 2+5, 3+4 and the same equations the other way around. With Miss Wakelen, we have been comparing contrasting environments within our neighbourhood. We looked at the Forest School area and compared it with the main road near Lammas Land. Please do continue to read with your child daily.

From this week, we will be issuing just one reading book, which may be longer and contain increasingly complex words. The idea is to re-read the book each day of the week so your child will become confident and fluent before the next book is issued.

### Year 1

In Year 1 we ended the week with a visit to Newnham College gardens with Mrs Bicknell, who showed us around and helped us to identify some of the different plants growing in the lovely grounds. We also practised using digital cameras to take close-up photos of the plants. In Maths, Year 1 have been learning how to find a quarter of amounts and investigated halves and quarters. In English we have enjoyed writing our alternative version of Eat Your Peas. In Science we have been observing our pea seeds closely and thinking about what plants need to grow. We have also been looking at the parts of the plant that we eat. Please remember to send in your child's home folder and reading books every Thursday. Thank you.

### Class 1/2N and 1/2C

We rounded off a busy week with a visit to Newnham College gardens where Mrs Bicknell showed us around and helped us to identify some of the different plants growing in the beautiful grounds there. Here is the link for your information. <https://newn.cam.ac.uk/about/gardens/visiting-the-gardens/>. We also practised using digital cameras to take close-up photos of the plants. In Maths, Year 1 have been learning how to find a quarter of amounts and investigated halves and quarters. Year 2 have been working on problems related to capacity. They also recapped some of the written calculation methods for adding and subtracting. In Grammar lessons, the children worked on improving sentences by adding adjectives and adverbs. In Spelling lessons, they worked on words containing the suffix - ment (e.g. enjoyment). In phonics, Year 1 have been learning how to spell words using the alternative spellings for 'ar'- a,al (e.g. last, half) and 'ur' - ear, or, ir, er (e.g. heard, word, girl, her) as well as spelling and reading the words 'looked' and 'who'. Thank you for your continued support with your child's daily reading at home and spelling and number facts practise. Please remember to send your child's reading record log book and reading books in every Friday.

### Year 3

Year 3 have had another very busy week. We started by going to The Leys school to continue with their swimming sessions.

Mrs Burke and I were yet again very impressed by the class' efforts to ensure that they were carefully listening to each instructor and challenging themselves even if they felt quite nervous. Inspired by our topic, Inventors and Inventions, Year 3 and 4 also visited Kettle's Yard and the Folk Museum. The children enjoyed the long walk around the backs of Kings College to get there, which was enhanced by the beautiful, sunny weather. At Kettle's Yard, Year 3 enjoyed investigating Ai Weiwei's monotone Lego creation of Dropping a Han Dynasty Urn. After this, we had lunch outside on St Giles' front garden and then made our way to the Folk Museum where the class visited two floors full of old domestic appliances, clothes, toys and furniture dating back as early as the 18th Century.



In English, Year 3 have been working on persuasive language and have been using their knowledge of persuasive techniques and features, such as rhetorical questions and emotive language to create their own speeches based on a topic of their choice. One child wrote about why playtimes should be made longer. In Maths, we've continued building on adding using the expanded and compact method and we finished the week by estimating targets and rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100. Well done Year 3 as always, for a very hard working week!

#### **Year 4**

Year 4 have had a very busy week! We have spent lots of time outside of the classroom, with our swimming lesson at The Leys, an outdoor science lesson on the hunt for invertebrates in the playground and the trip to the Folk Museum and Kettle's Yard. At the Folk Museum, we were able to look at lots of early inventions. We sketched, read about and observed how some of these items may have been used, comparing them to the modernised tools we use today. In English, we have started our unit on persuasive writing and speeches. We have been researching and planning for a speech on a topic that we feel passionate about so that we can convince our peers to agree with our point of view. In Maths, we have been refreshing our memory on converting units of measurement with real-life examples.

#### **Year 5**

This week, Year 5 spent their time in Thetford Forest at Thorpe Woodland. There were tales of derring-do high up in the pine trees; adventures upon the river; invasion games in the woods; challenges faced and overcome; plentiful supplies

of squash; night time adventures; friendship and support; perseverance and encouragement; camp fires and riddles. Sleep was had, though not too much - we'll catch up on that now we're back in Cambridge.

#### **Year 6**

This week has been all about getting ready for Sats. As well as doing our normal PE, Music and Science (where we looked at thermal insulators and conductors), we did revision in SPaG and Maths. Overall, there is a mix of emotions in the Year 6 classroom: excitement, nervousness and many more. *Farouq and Malik*

#### **School Meals**

Next week will be the week 1 menu of the three week cycle (attached). The cost of a school meal is £2.40.

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)

Yours faithfully,  
Andy Matthews, Headteacher

#### **PTA NEWS**

##### **The Great Newnham Croft Bake Off**

Join in our Bake Off on Friday 27th May - bring along a homemade bake in the morning (to our Coffee and Chat) and during the day, teachers and staff will taste them and vote for their favourites. At home time, the winner will be announced and all the bakes will be available to buy by the slice. Impress us with your tasty tray bakes, yummy biscuits or delicious cupcakes or why not make that banana bread with the recipe you honed during lockdown? With the Queen's Platinum Jubilee coming up, maybe you want to make a Union Jack sponge cake, or even Corgi shaped biscuits? Whatever you bring must be homemade and as always, no nuts, sesame or kiwi are to be used. Ready, steady, BAKE!

Newnham Croft PTA

#### **Community News**

##### **Rumpus Jubilee Family Festival**

A family festival just outside Cambridge aimed at primary aged children, with theatre, bands, bushcraft, arts and crafts and much more. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

##### **KAPLA Club**

Please see the attached flyer for the Kapla Club on 13 May.