



Newnham News

Friday 11 March 2022

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

Attachments

- Lunch menu
- Cocks and Hens Easter Camps

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we continue to move towards ever more normal school operations, we are delighted to announce that there will soon be an opportunity for parents to come back into school to spend a little time looking at your children's school books. We will be doing this on Monday 28 March after school. The classrooms will be open between 3.15pm and 4pm with children's books placed into their trays for you to look through with your children. Some staff will be around as well but others might be unavailable, so please do not expect to be able to have conversations with the teachers about the work during this time. It will be great to start having parents back into school again and enjoying the progress that their children have been making.

On that front, we're also glad to inform you that the Year 4 pupils will be putting on a school performance for parents in the school hall on Friday 25 March at 2pm. This show will be based around the topic theme of Explorers. This will not be a ticketed event, however we will need to know numbers and will send a more comprehensive letter out next week to gauge the number of attendees and explain the event in more detail.

Next Friday will also see Red Nose Day return to the school. We'd encourage the children to all wear some red clothing to school and also to learn a really good joke for a school comedy assembly. Please also send your child in with a £1/£2 donation towards this tremendously good cause.

I also need to inform you that there will be a change to the price of school meals from September. We always try to cover the costs of school meals from parental payments and money allocated by the government for school meals provision. This year with rises in school meal costs we have been running at a loss, and with expected increases to the cost of provisions and forecast energy price rises, we will need to raise the price of meals by 10p. This means that from September 2022 the price of KS2 school meals will rise to £2.50 per day.

On a final point, I'd also like to remind parents that if you require any family support, we are able to access support services aimed at providing support to families in difficulties. Please let us know if there is anything that we can do in this respect.

Year 6 Cafe and Year 5 Stall

We were very proud of Year 6 today. The idea of holding a fundraising event for Ukrainian refugees came from the Year 6 children and they organised and advertised the event themselves. Their hard work raised a brilliant £326. Thank you to Ms Noble, Mrs Elbourne, Miss Harper, Mrs Bicheno and Mr Jach for helping the children with their cafe. Thank you also to Katie, from Year 5, who also ran a fundraising stall this morning which raised a wonderful £139.80. *Ms Holliday*

New Additions to the School Menu

As a result of a letter to Ms Noble from Aman in Year 5, the school dinner menu included tacos as part of our Mexican day. Mushrooms have also been added to the salad bar and a new dessert will soon be on the menu following letter requests from children in KS1. If your child has a tasty suggestion for the school lunch menu, they can write a persuasive letter to Ms Noble.

Summer Music Festival Sign Up

All children who are learning a musical instrument (either at school or privately) are invited to play in next term's Music Festival, which will be held on **Friday 22 April 3.30-4.30pm**. The festival will take place IN PERSON. Please sign up by 19 April.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wEgbqrK-yY-q_Ce4BzSGGWmKhKoAJmhTbExixxTnypl/edit?usp=sharing
Any questions, please email Dani dani@meeprophone.com

Classroom News:

Reception

We have had a very eventful week in Reception and were so happy to have the sun shining too. We had a wonderful session led by Matt Bothwell, an astronomer from the Institute of Astronomy in Cambridge. Matt answered lots of questions the class had for him and was himself, pretty impressed by their own knowledge about Space. Max S knew that the moon was created when an asteroid hit the Earth millions of years ago. We found out that even though Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun, Venus is in fact hotter as it has clouds around it which act like a blanket. We also had the opportunity to hold a real meteorite which landed in Mexico - it was much heavier than it looked. The Institute will be holding an open day for families on Saturday 9 April. We also had a 'booknic' after we made our own sandwiches, linked to our class book 'Whatever Next?'. Ask any of the children in Reception if you want to know more about what a 'booknic' is.

Year 1

This week in Year 1 the children have enjoyed researching animals, then making their very own Top Trumps animal cards for the class. The class have also started making animal finger puppets. They have completed the sewing and are ready to add the animal's features - it's very exciting! In Geography the class have been learning about the Equator and in Maths the children have been counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s and learning to make arrays.

Class 1/2N and 1/2C

In Maths, Year 1 have started to learn about making and adding equal groups (arrays have rows and columns). Year 2 have been recapping 2D shapes and learning to recognise 3D shapes and identify some of their properties including faces, edges and vertices. In Geography, we learned about which countries the Equator passes through and the South and North Pole. In English, we have written and designed our own superb Top Trumps animal cards. In phonics, Year 1 practised reading and spelling words using the alternative sounds 't/tch/ch' (picture, nature), 'e' (me, we) and 'ey' (key, monkey). Year 2 practised spelling words where 'a' makes an 'o' sound when following 'w' (wash, watch) and 'qu' (quality, squabble). 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. Thank you to our Forest School teacher Mrs Bicknell for our stimulating sessions outside in the Wildlife Area.

Year 3 and Year 4

Years 3 and 4 have had another very busy week. Year 4 have been continuing to practise for their upcoming play in music and Year 3 spent the final part of Thursday afternoon on the field having a bit of circle time, reflecting on how they work as a class and when working in groups. In English, we've all continued exploring newspaper reports. The classes recapped all the features, including connective phrases and learnt some new ones. They learnt about the relevance of adding captions; the name of the newspaper; price and the date. The classes then used all these features to create their own and we had a variety of newspaper reports on inspiring sport events to heroic animals and people. In SPAG, Year 3 have been working on homophones and have had a go at using cursive handwriting. Both classes built on their comprehension skills with their class readers. In Maths, both classes have been working on money, adding and subtracting amounts. Year 3 ended the week subtracting amounts by counting up on a number line. In Science, we all explored climate change and what the impacts to our environment and animals would be if it got much warmer through the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation. In Geography, Year 3 explored African Biomes and looked in detail at the climate, animal and plant species found in a savannah or rainforest. Year 4 explored Northern Ireland's Giant's Causeway, regarded as the 8th Wonder of The World. In Art Year 4 used chalk and charcoal to recreate parts of the Vernet painting,

A Shipwreck in Stormy Seas. Well done both classes for all of your hard work this week.

Year 5

In Maths, we've explored the different imperial and metric units used to measure length, mass and capacity, improving our understanding of the measurements and making comparisons. We also looked at placing mixed numbers on a number line. In English, we looked at expanded noun phrases and how we could use them to advertise 'Cloud Tea', which linked to our story. Our R.E. lesson led to a great discussion about 'free will' and 'determinism' and whether people are guilty or not guilty, depending on the situation. Great strides continue to be made by many of the Year 5 swimmers in our weekly sessions and, in our topic, we've looked at the social hierarchy of the Shang dynasty and reflected on how it compares to the one we have today.

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been doing lots of interesting things. One of the main things we did was run a café to raise money for Ukrainian refugees. We raised over £300! We also made mazes in Scratch programming and choreographed our own dances, one of which will be picked and entered into a competition. *Marielle, Linnea and Sofia*

School Meals

Next week will be the week 1 menu of the new 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

Yours faithfully, Andy Matthews, Headteacher

COMMUNITY NEWS

Cox and Hens Easter Tennis Camps - See the poster attached.

Cambridge Festival, free family events 31 March - 10 April.

Simon Watt, biologist and stand-up comedian will be hosting 'The Ugly Animal Preservation Society' about the animal kingdom's most monstrous and what makes them amazing. Book here: <https://www.festival.cam.ac.uk/events/ugly-animal-preservation-society-simon-watt>

In 'Covid for Kids', an interactive show for ages 7 upwards, we follow Corry the Coronavirus around the world causing chaos and misery until she is brought under control by a team of Super Scientists. Presented by Professor Tom Solomon, the Director of the UK's Emerging Infections Research Unit at the University of Liverpool, book here: <https://www.festival.cam.ac.uk/events/covid-kids>

Ginny Smith helps you make the most of your memory with quizzes and games in 'Mastering Memory' and explains why we can't always trust what we remember. Book here: <https://www.festival.cam.ac.uk/events/mastering-memory-ginny-smith>

To see the full list of events, both online and in-person please visit: <https://www.festival.cam.ac.uk/events>