



# Newnham News

Friday 8 November 2024

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

[NET donation link](#)

Dear parents/carers,

While on playground duty this week, I watched as 3 children showed such sincere and gentle kindness for one of their classmates that I was almost moved to tears.

For all the ills in the world, and the disagreements and polarisation, it was a reminder to me that almost all my experience of individuals is an experience of kindness and warmth.

Often this contrasts to the way people act when part of a group, and is easily overlooked when castigating so many of the human actions that we see, hear and read about.

So, thank you, those 3 generous young souls, for such a heart warming and restorative reminder.

In a different sort of warming, I look forward to seeing many of you tomorrow for the bonfire and fireworks. Well done and thank you to the PTA and Mr Jach for all your efforts, organisations and general excellence.

Kind regards  
Edward Ferguson

## Diary Dates

PTA Fireworks Night	5.30 - 7.30pm	Sat 9 Nov
Eat lunch with your Year 5 child		Mon 11 Nov
Y6 swimming (and every Tue in November)		Tues 12 Nov
Eat lunch with your Year 5 child		Wed 13 Nov
Children in Need day - wear your pjs!		Fri 15 Nov
Year 3 forest school	morning	Fri 15 Nov
Reception forest school	afternoon	Fri 15 Nov

Please check the school calendar on our website, which is updated regularly.

## Whole school news

### Children in Need - Friday 15 November

Children can come to school in their pyjamas! You can donate to this charity on the SchoolGateway app next week.

### Catering assistant job vacancy

We are currently seeking a catering assistant for our school kitchen. This is a part-time role: 4 hours a day for 4 days a week. The closing date is now Friday 29 November. For more information, see our [website](#).

## School Meals

The weekly menu is attached. The menu after half term will be Week 3. The cost of a school meal is £2.50.

## Classroom news

### Reception

Reception has had a great first week back. In phonics, we looked at the phonemes: ll, ff, s and j and all children have started writing out a few words building up to writing out a sentence, such as "a big cat." We've introduced the children to our new topic, Celebrations. We discussed the types of celebrations that are coming up, such as birthdays, Diwali, Bonfire Night, Thanksgiving and Christmas. In maths, Reception has started exploring money and during their active learning time, some of the children chose to order toys which were labelled with price tags, from the cheapest to the most expensive. Finally, in PE, all children had their first session on the balance bikes. The Reception team were really impressed with how well all children listened and followed the instructions that they were given, including the importance of wearing a helmet. Well done Reception.



### Year 1

This week year 1 has been introduced to the new class book *Puffin Peter* by Petr Horáček. This is the tale of a puffin that loses his best friend in a storm and tries to find him by describing him to a friendly whale he meets on his quest. The class have been busy creating missing posters for the puffin, using clear descriptions of the character. We have also been reading facts about puffins with our favourite fact being that a baby puffin is called a puffling!

### Year 2

What a busy and exciting week we've had in Year 2! In English, we've dived into our poetry unit. The children have been exploring what makes a poem and looking at different types of poems. They've enjoyed identifying and playing with rhyming words. In maths, we've focused on "bridging ten" to help us

with addition and subtraction. The children have been using their knowledge of multiples of ten and number bonds to work on calculations that cross over tens. Gymnastics this week has been all about practising different types of rolls—egg roll, log roll, forward roll, and teddy bear roll. The children are building their strength and control with each movement. In art, Year 2 has been using their observational skills to create detailed drawings inspired by film. In history, we had a lovely discussion about our favourite toys and why they are meaningful to us. In RE, the children have been sharing and comparing their ideas on the meaning of candles. In science, we've been busy sorting and classifying living and non-living things. Well done for a great week, Year 2!

### Year 3

Year 3 has had a great first week back. In maths, the children have used arrays (groups of dots arranged in rows and columns) to help them solve multiplication and division problems relating to their target times tables. In English, the children have loved reading and performing poems written by Michael Rosen and identifying some of the features they contain. In history, the children started to understand the motives behind the Roman invasion of Britain. In science, the children learnt about what all animals have in common and enjoyed designing menus for them to live off.

### Year 4

Year 4 has worked really hard this week. In computing we have been putting a variable in our code for microbits. In English we have been enjoying reading poems by Michael Rosen. We found out that some use rhyme and some are really funny. In science we started a new topic on sound and in history we have started to find out about the Romans. In maths we have practised 24 hour times, used simple timetables and calculated time intervals. For spelling this week we have been looking at words ending in -ation.

### Year 5

We had a brilliant first week back after half term, excited and ready to jump into our new topics. In English, we learned about the features of horror stories and read a range of different spooky short stories from *Short!* by Kevin Crossley-Holland. In maths, we continued with our fractions topic and practised finding equivalent fractions by multiplying the numerator and denominator by the same number. We used this strategy to help us compare, order, add and subtract fractions with different denominators. In PSHE, we explored the difference between friendship issues and bullying and what to do if either situation occurs.

### Year 6

This week, we have started a new book called Clockwork, otherwise known as All Wound Up. We did a collage project portraying the village of Glockenheim. Also, we did multiplication with money in maths and a mini-biography in English.

*By Alona and Adam*



*Year 6 collage*

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)

### PTA News

**Christmas trees - order here** [www.bit.ly/NewnhamTree](http://www.bit.ly/NewnhamTree)

Children will be coming home today with leaflets about our wonderful, locally-grown Christmas trees. The Christmas tree sale is one of the school's big fundraisers and we'd be very grateful if you could pass on your leaflet to a friend, neighbour or work colleague once you have ordered your tree, to help spread the word. We are also looking for a couple of people to help distribute leaflets in the neighbourhood - if you can spare an hour or two and fancy a bit of fresh air, please email [dani@meeeprophone.com](mailto:dani@meeeprophone.com).

### Community news

**Newnham Nursery - help wanted**

The nursery is looking for a helping pair of hands to work a couple of mornings a week. If you are interested and can be flexible with your availability, then do get in touch with Susan by email: [office@newnhamnursery.co.uk](mailto:office@newnhamnursery.co.uk).

**Music Festival - sign up now open**

All musicians are invited to sign up for our special Festive Music Festival on Friday 13th December. The Junior and Senior Orchestras will be performing for the first time ever, which will be a real treat! Full details here: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Ks\\_sO\\_wG8tlw-3\\_oIK8Wzu19984nPtK1VmPFLasFnb0/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Ks_sO_wG8tlw-3_oIK8Wzu19984nPtK1VmPFLasFnb0/edit?usp=sharing)