

Newnham Croft Primary School

Chedworth Street Cambridge CB3 9JF Tel 01223 508737
office@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr E Ferguson



Tuesday 6 January 2026

Spring term – Year 5

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome to the spring term at Newnham Croft. We hope you all had a restful break and are ready for the new term ahead. Thank you very much for the kind Christmas cards and vouchers.

This term, in history, Year 5 will be exploring the Sikh Empire. In science, children will be learning about Forces and Space, and this will be supported by a visit to the Whipple Museum of the History of Science. Swimming lessons will also begin this term.

Punctuality

A reminder that children should arrive in the school playground by 8.40am, ready to come into class and be registered promptly at 8.45am. Please ensure children arrive on time, as late arrival can disrupt their learning and the start of the school day.

Curriculum Overview and Support

Mrs Onatskaia will continue to support the class daily and will teach music on Wednesday afternoons. Ms Roberts (Premier Sports) will teach outdoor PE on Wednesdays; please ensure your child comes to school in appropriate active wear on this day. French lessons will be taught on Thursdays with support from Ms Noble and myself. Mrs Burke will support the class on Tuesday afternoons, and Ms D'Oly will support art every other Monday.

Swimming

Swimming lessons will take place every Tuesday morning at 11.00am at The Leys School, beginning on 13th January. Please ensure your child brings a separate bag containing a labelled swimming costume and towel. Year 5 will leave Newnham Croft at 10.20am to walk to The Leys School for their swimming lesson and will aim to return to school by 11.45am.

Assessment and Home Learning

Before the winter break, Year 5 completed maths and reading assessments. These will be sent home on Friday, and we encourage you to look through them with your child.

Weekly maths or SPaG homework will continue to be set on Fridays and should be returned by the following Friday. Children should spend approximately 30 minutes completing their

homework each week. In addition, children should practise the Year 5 and 6 spelling words and read for at least 15 minutes daily at home.

Science Curriculum Trip

As part of our science learning on Forces and Space, we will visit the Whipple Museum of the History of Science on 29th January at 1.00pm. Children will have an early lunch on this day, so no packed lunch is required.

Uniform, Jewellery and Appearance

Please note that jewellery is not permitted in school. Long hair must be tied up at all times for safety reasons, particularly during PE and practical lessons. Nail varnish is not permitted. Children are expected to wear active wear at all times. This includes trainers, leggings, joggers or other comfortable clothing suitable for learning and physical activity. Jeans, skirts and corduroy trousers are not permitted.

Open Afternoon and Parent Consultations

Our Open Afternoon will be held on Monday 2nd March from 3.15–4.00pm. This will give you the opportunity to look through your child's workbooks together.

Parent consultations will take place on:

- Monday 9th March (3.30–6.00pm)
- Tuesday 10th March (1.30–5.00pm)

You will be given information on how to book closer to the date. For parents/ carers of children on the SEN register or with an APDR, I will arrange a separate meeting, so please do not book an additional appointment during consultation week.

Running Club

Running Club will continue on Thursdays from 8.00am, starting on 8th January. Please ensure children wear suitable trainers and layers, depending on the weather, and bring a change of socks and shoes.

As usual, I will be available on the playground on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings to pass on messages or arrange meetings. As I take Running Club on Thursdays, I may be approximately five minutes late. To encourage independence, please support your child in speaking directly to me or any member of the Year 5 team if they have any concerns.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Markham