



Newnham News

Friday 3 May 2024

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

[NET donation link](#)

Dear parents/carers,

When we have our assemblies, we always play some music while the children come in. We try to vary it so as to introduce the children to as broad a range as possible. The Beach Boys and Beethoven, Eddie Cochrane or the wonderful Grimethorpe Colliery Band, the pleasure that music can bring is an important love to nurture.

Occasionally, if he is in school, we ask Andrew, the piano teacher, if he would play - and the effect is quite dramatic. There's something about a live performance that quite transfixed the listener, especially when performed with such fluency and expression.

The children's whispered conversations (behind hands - the adults can't see us!) quieten and a hall of young heads turn to the instrument. I'll admit that not ALL the heads turn, but the effect is noticeable and wonderful.

I hope the performances encourage and enthuse some of the children to take up or persevere with their instrument. It is something a lot of adults regret not pursuing when they were young.

On another note, well done to Year 5, who have had a successful residential this week. I'm sure they will enjoy a rest over the three day weekend!

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and that you also have a lovely Bank Holiday.

Kind regards
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

School closed - Bank Holiday	Mon 6 May
Year 2 swimming	Tues 7 May
Year 3 & 4 litter picking on Coe Fen	Tues 7 May
Year 3 swimming	Wed 8 May
Year 4 swimming	Wed 8 May
Year 4 residential trip to Grafham Water	Thurs 9 May
Reception trip to Botanic Gardens	Thurs 9 May
Year 4 return from Grafham Water	Fri 10 May, 3.15pm

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

BAG2SCHOOL textile fundraiser

Bag2School collected the mountain of textiles you donated last week - thank you for your generosity. We raised £65 which has been put towards the cost of coaches taking KS2 to Thalia Waste Management Centre.

Classroom news

Reception

In Reception we had a huge focus on developing vocabulary. This happens in many ways, from having language rich conversations with the adults in the setting, to chatting with friends, who we can also learn from. Other ways of introducing new vocabulary is through the reading and hearing of stories and rhymes. Over the last couple of weeks, our vocabulary has been based on the experiences of Max, from the book *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak. Some of the words we used to describe the characters' experiences include, 'coronation', 'shimmy' 'irritated' and 'navigate'. We think these words are so much more descriptive than 'made a king', 'dance', 'fed up' and 'find'.

KS1

This week KS1 has been busy in English, writing instructions to help Mr Grinling make a sandwich. They have also been sequencing our topic book *The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch* and we have been writing character descriptions. In maths, Year 2 has started the unit *shape*, looking at different properties of shapes and focusing on pentagons, hexagons and octagons. Year 1 has been adding and subtracting ten using two digit numbers.

In science each class made rain gauges and we have been working scientifically by making tables and charts about the weather. In geography, we have been locating and defining the coast as a piece of land along the sea or ocean. We have also been locating some coasts in the UK using atlases and Google Earth. During DT the children have learnt how to chop foods safely. We would like to remind Year 2 that the swimming teachers have asked children not to wear wetsuits as they weigh the children down in the water. Well done for a great working week.

Year 3

Year 3 has continued learning about different crimes and punishments. This week, we focused on the Tudors and thought about how things had changed from Anglo-Saxon

times. In our English sessions, the children enjoyed listening to the end of *Fantastic Mr Fox* and used a tension graph to record how the tension changed within chapters. In our maths sessions the children learnt how to subtract 3-digit numbers using column subtraction that involved exchanging tens and hundreds. In our science session the children enjoyed learning about different electrical components and using them to complete a simple series circuit.

Year 4

This week we have been researching, planning, writing and presenting explanations about an area in which we are experts. The children have thought carefully about their subject, content and presentation to create excellent leaflets. In maths we have been revising properties of polygons and practising written addition methods. In science we have thought about safety with electricity and have tried some challenges with making circuits. We have also found out about some terrible punishments used by the torturing Tudors! In PSHE we shared ideas for activities which we find helpful in managing our emotions. There were so many good ideas. This week and next week, we will be practising words with the prefix auto-.

Year 5

Year 5 have been on their residential trip at Thorpe Woodlands Adventure Centre.

Year 6

In the past week the Y6 have been revising constantly for the up and coming SATS. We also excitedly started a new science topic. On Tuesday, we did a speed kick challenge to raise money for charity (extra goes to our school). On top of that, a group of Year 6 competed in a netball competition and placed 2nd out of five schools. Last of all, on Wednesday, we made posters on how to live a healthy lifestyle.

By Nour and Zoe

School Meals

The three weekly menu rota is attached. Next week's menu will be Week 1. 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.

PTA NEWS

AGM

The PTA AGM is approaching on Wednesday 22nd June, 7.30pm in the school. Please attend and join the committee for next year.

Community News

Coton Football U6

Is your child interested in football and wanting to play in a team? Coton U6 are looking for more players, boys and girls, from Reception or Year 1 to add to their team. We already

have some players from Newnham Croft School and would love some more! Please pass the message to others if you know anyone with children of a similar age.

We have training regularly and friendly matches at Coton. Please follow this link to read the latest match report where Coton played Gamlingay U6 team:

<https://www.cotonfc.org/under-6s/>

Please contact Hannah on 07789378066 or han_collins@hotmail.com if you are interested and want to find out more.

Rewarding, paid jobs at Sheep's Green Learner Pool

We're looking for poolside assistants to make this much-loved open air pool in Newnham a welcoming & safe place for children and their families. Flexible, part time, May to September. Applicants need to be over 18, friendly, reliable and self-motivated. No previous experience necessary. Up to £13.45 per hour. Please do share with friends & neighbours. This is an ideal job for students or anyone looking to give something back to the community. For more information see the poster or visit

<https://sheepsgreen.wordpress.com/>