



Newnham News

Friday 3 February 2023

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Dear parents/carers,

Due to a temperature of over 40°C, one of our regular cleaning team was unable to come to work for a few days. Mr Jach stepped in to carry out most of the necessities, but I volunteered at the end of Friday to help out while he lead his DT club - I mean, how hard could it be?

Well, extremely, as it turns out.

Just to Hoover the floors and clean the tables in four classrooms took two hours of absolutely flat-out work. The list of what I didn't achieve would make this newsletter rather long - suffice to say that the remaining hoovering (library/computer suite/office/staff room), as well as mopping, dusting, cleaning surfaces etc. constitutes an incredible amount to fit into the 4 hours that we pay for. It has certainly made me aware of how much we are asking of our cleaners with the time we give them. It turns out the children (and staff) are very skilled at making mess, so the cleaners work, though unseen, is vital. Thank you very much, cleaning team!

In other matters, please could we ask parents to supervise their children carefully at the front of the school. There have been a couple of incidents of children freewheeling around on bikes and, although we work hard to minimise the amount of traffic using the road, residents and others still need to drive up and down it.

Finally, there is a PTA meeting coming up (please see notice at the end). It would be lovely to have as many parents/carers as possible attending and supporting. Our PTA contributes so much to the school and volunteers are always needed.

Have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards, Eddie Ferguson

Classroom news:

Reception

As part of our Understanding of the World, we thought about the past and present. By linking this to our topic on Transport and Journeys, we looked at a range of vehicles from the past and compared them to the types of vehicles we often see today. We found out that early bikes didn't have brakes and the earliest ones didn't even have pedals. We sorted pictures of vehicles from the past and present into two different groups and discussed the differences.

Years 1 and 2

Key Stage One have had a very busy week this week learning about the history of Amy Johnson, the first female pilot who travelled all over the world. The classes enjoyed learning about how Amy nearly broke the world record by flying from London to Australia in 19 days. In Maths, Year 1 have been working on relating their addition and subtraction number facts and did an investigation to show their understanding of this. In Year 2, we started the week by recapping 2D and 3D shapes and then the classes worked on rounding 2-digit numbers to the nearest 10. In English, Year 1 have written sentences in the past tense using the pronoun "I" to describe how they felt if they were the hedgehog from the story, One Winter's Day. The classes used words such as "scared," "shocked" and "wondered." The Year 2s have continued with their quest stories module, by editing sentences from a set piece of text, adding the correct punctuation and looking for adjectives. This is all in preparation for writing their own quest stories. In Science, all classes have explored the parts of the environment that all living things depend on. Well done for an excellent week, Key Stage One. Please find attached number bonds to 15 for the Year 2s to practise for next Friday's test and spellings explored throughout the week.

On Monday (6 February), all classes are constructing rafts/boats using recycling products e.g cardboard and plastic materials. If you have any suitable recycling for your child's construction please bring it in on Monday in a named plastic bag. You may need to ask them what it is they actually need.

Year 3

We started off the week with an enjoyable trip to the Botanic Gardens. The children enjoyed sketching the plants in much the same way as Henri Rousseau would have done when working on his famous painting 'Surprised!'. In Maths, the children have been adding 3-digit numbers using the expanded column method. In English lessons they enjoyed completing their twisted versions of well-known traditional tales. In our Geography session we focused on the continent of South America. The children used maps and atlases to locate the different countries and worked at recognising and sorting human and physical features found in them.

Year 4

Year 4 started this week by visiting the Botanic Gardens to do sketches of the plants in the greenhouse, inspired by Henri Rousseau's 'Surprised!'. They enjoyed going on the Life Bus to learn about medicines, safety and keeping themselves healthy. They took part in a maths investigation, exercising their teamwork skills to crack the code, and finished writing

their twisted tales that they have been working so hard on. In Science, they experimented with different materials to see which were best at blocking out light while in computing they have been writing their own codes to create shapes and pictures.

Year 5

This week, Year 5 and 6 enjoyed a really interesting presentation from Gray's mum about Voyager 1 and 2, followed by some rocket launching on the field. Gray's grandad was involved in the development of NASA's space probes in the 1970s. We learnt about the features of the probes, what they have taught us and where



they are now. On Tuesday, Year 5 experienced the Life Bus, where they showed engagement and maturity, giving excellent contributions when discussing the body, the impact of drugs and the influence of peer pressure. They learnt about the impact substances can have on the body and practised assertiveness skills. In Maths, Year 5 have revisited mental and written methods for addition and subtraction and have learnt about the perfect form of tense in English.

Year 6

In Maths, we've been handling data and converting litres to millilitres, kilograms to grams and metres to kilometres. We also compared Imperial measurements to metric ones. We learnt to do conversion graphs too. In English, we started reading information texts and we studied their features. In Art, we've started naïve style Henri Rousseau inspired paintings. On Monday, a Year 5s mum came to talk to us about Voyager One and Two, which were space satellites. We learnt a lot of cool facts and she brought some rockets and real NASA food which was freeze-dried. *By Nico*

In a netball festival at St Faith's, we played 3 friendly matches against the St Faith's teams. We (the Newnham Knights) won more matches than not, but the best part was the experience of playing against new people. *By Nefeli*

On Friday this week we had a Co-op bake sale to raise money. In total we raised £256. Half of it will go to the Co-op charity choice Mind, which is a mental health charity. The other half goes to the school funds. The Co-op Manager enjoyed it so much, we will have bake sale every month! *By Robyn, Nelly and Isabella*

Thank you to Ms Chenette for coming in to talk to Year 5 and 6 and for supplying all the rocket paraphernalia and goodies!

School Meals

The menu will be week 2 of the menu cycle (attached). 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:

Treat Stall

Our next Treat Stall is on **Friday 10th February at 3.15pm** in the school playground and will be hosted by Year 5. Bring along 50p to pick up a little treat to take you into half term.

PTA Meeting

Our next PTA meeting will be on **Thursday 23rd February at 7pm** in the school and on Zoom. Join us to discuss funding requests, planning our first annual Daffodil Festival and other upcoming activities.

Diary Dates

Parent teacher consultations 3.30-6.00 (not Y2).....	6 Feb
Parent teacher consultations 1.30-4.00	7 Feb
Y2 Parent teacher consultations 3.30-6.00.....	8 Feb
Y5 swimming.....	8 Feb
PTA treat stall	10 Feb
Half term.....	13-17 Feb
Whole class group photos	22 Feb
Y5 swimming.....	1 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	8 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	15 Mar
Y5 swimming.....	22 Mar
PTA meeting 7pm.....	23 Feb
Y5 swimming.....	29 Mar