



Newnham News

Friday 26 November 2021

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

Attachments

- Lunch menu

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we are entering the festive season from next week (yes I believe it starts in December and not when the John Lewis advert arrives), we are looking forward to being able to share as much festive cheer as we can in the weeks ahead. For our KS1 families this will involve having an outdoor performance, including a range of festive songs, on the school playground at 3.30pm after school on 14 December. Children from the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes will all dress up (news about this will follow next week) and sing some songs as classes and then a couple of songs all together. For parents there will be mince pies and mulled wine to enjoy during the performance. We hope that this will bring a little festive cheer, despite us being unable to perform the traditional nativity play for you all this year.

This evening our Year 6 children will be enjoying their annual film festival alongside their parents, who will be joining via Zoom. I've had a sneak preview of some of the stop-frame animation films and I know that parents are in for a real treat tonight. Who knows we might just discover the next Nick Park!

On Covid related matters, we currently have one staff member and one pupil off with the virus. The pupil is also from Year 5, but has not been in school prior to their positive test, so no contact tracing has been necessary. As we look at other schools who are currently experiencing extremely high Covid levels, we remain vigilant and ask that you all support us as much as you can in following guidance and helping us hopefully get to Christmas without disruption.

Finally, a big well done to our KS2 cross country runners who today braved really unpleasant weather to compete in the interschool cross country competition with 14 schools at Netherhall School. You were all incredible and did the school proud in many ways, some children also winning their respective races.

Classroom Round-up:

Reception

We completed the reading of our class book 'Ruby's Worry' this week and shared our thoughts on the book. On the whole, the class enjoyed the story and although Ruby's situation of having a growing worry was not a good one, the class agreed that we now know how to deal with worries and other emotions. As we said before, it is always best to talk

about anything that may be worrying you. In Maths we have been looking at the concepts of one more and one less, using visual objects such as toys to demonstrate this as well as orally counting up and down to help us. In Phonics we have now completed Phase 2 in our phonics programme and will shortly be moving on to phase 3. This means that the children should be able to recognise the following phonemes within simple words as well as the phase 2 tricky words: s,a,t,p,i,n,m,d,g,o,c,k,ck,e,u,r,h,b,f,ff,ll,ss 'l', 'to', 'no', 'go', 'into', 'the'. We'd like to say thank you to Ellie's mum for sharing information about Thanksgiving with our class.

Reception parents have been invited to join Ms Mangera for a short Zoom meeting on Monday 29th November at 6pm, to discuss how you can support your child with applying their phonic knowledge by reading at home. Please look out for a separate email invite for this.

Year 1

We have had another busy week in Year 1, which started with singing sea shanties in music. We learnt about the different roles of the crew on a pirate ship and wrote about which role we would be good at! In Maths, we recapped coins by investigating how many ways we can make 10p. We also learnt how to recognise o'clock times on an analog clock using the different hands on the clock face. In Science, we looked at the suitability of materials and in Geography we have been learning the seven continents of the world. This week in Phonics we learnt the ey, a-e, i-e, and e-e split digraphs. We finished the week with a fun Forest School session.

Class 1/2N & 1/2C

In Maths, Year 1s have continued to learn how to recognise the value of coins and to count using coins. They have also been learning about the different hands on the clock face and to recognise o'clock times. The Year 2s have been learning to recognise and draw different 2D shapes and to count their sides and vertices. They also sorted 2D shapes and learnt how to identify different lines of symmetry. In Science, we have been learning about different materials that sink or float. In English, we described the different roles of the crew on a pirate ship. In Phonics, Year 1s have been learning to read and write words using the alternative long 'i' sound (child, mind, find) and words using the alternative long 'o' sound (old, cold, told). Year 2s have been learning the spelling rules for writing verbs using the suffixes -ing and -ed to double the consonant before adding -ed to single syllable verbs (stop, stopping, stopped). It would be great if you could help your child spot any words containing these sounds and spellings in their reading. In Geography, we were learning to recognise the

seven continents of the world. In PE, we enjoyed gymnastics and on Wednesday the Year 2 children had fun together at the Sports Festival on Parker's Piece. Well done everyone!

Year 3

This week, Year 3 have been learning about the process of mummification. The class researched and described each stage. They found the process very interesting, particularly learning about how a priest would place the mask of Anubis over his face as symbolic of that god guiding a person into the afterlife. In English, the class have continued reading the fairy tale, The Wizard of Oz and built on their deduction skills. They spent this week changing one of the characters (the munchkins or the scarecrow) into a character of their choice, which could be bad or good. The class also explored compound sentences and applied this to their writing. In Maths, we've been exploring money and Year 3 have been building on how to work out change from a variety of amounts. In Science, the class investigated how light can be reflective and they used the outdoor space to work out which surfaces were reflective and which surfaces weren't as reflective or didn't reflect any light. Well done Year 3 for a very hard working week.

Year 4

This week Year 4 have continued their work on Ancient Egypt and have learned about some of the processes and traditions used in preparing bodies for mummification. In Science we have continued to think about light and observed the differences in how reflective certain surfaces are according to their materials and properties. Our Maths work has returned to place value but with a focus on a deeper understanding of problem solving and reasoning within the context of place value and how best to record our observations and ideas.

Year 5

This week, we have looked at simplifying fractions and measuring angles in Maths. In English, we worked on remembering and performing a poem, thinking about how to carry the meaning of the words in the way we said them and acted. In our History topic, we have been researching the different Greek myths, identifying the structure and style of them, so that we can create our own version in our writing. For PE, we have started to combine the different elements of gymnastics we have been learning about into a routine. We spent Friday afternoon in Forest School having a great time den building.



Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy week juggling a plethora of activities, ranging from the film festival to a mysterious project in music. Other activities included: predictions on our class book in English; fractions in Maths; a study on evaluation in Science; Greek trade in History; glazing our Greek-style pots in Art and continuation of our topic on football in PE. *By Avigail and Nadav*

School Meals

The four-weekly school lunch menu is attached. Next week will be the week 2 menu. 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

University of Cambridge is recruiting mothers and fathers for parental physical activity research

I am a PhD Student at the MRC Epidemiology Unit at the University of Cambridge. I am hoping to recruit parents for a study to explore parental experiences of physical activity as children move from infancy to primary school. I have already recruited some parents but we are still looking for more parents of at least one child aged 7 to 11 years old to take part. I hope that this research will help us to find ways to assist parents to be more active. The study would involve one-to-one interviews over Zoom lasting up to 60 minutes. If you are interested in participating, please contact me at parentalPA@mrc-epid.cam.ac.uk for more information about the study.