



# Newnham News

Friday 26 September 2025

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

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[NET donation link](#)

Dear parents/carers,

Monday brought the first governor meeting of the year - the Eco and Premises committee. As always with this committee, there was lots to discuss. A lot of our focus had foundations in the wonderful work of our site manager, Mr Jach.

Mr Jach spent the summer constructing a new, secure storage facility in the nursery/ASC play area, replacing moribund sheds well past their best with a weatherboard structure that the nursery are very pleased with.

Over the past week, Mr Jach has been working hard to prepare the various room spaces for the change of classrooms. The old 'food-tech' room has had the vintage oven removed (which had the heating power of a hand dryer). A splash of paint on the walls and cabinets has brought brightness and life and this is now ready to become the 'Printer' room.

In the ICT suite, the pupil PCs and their wiring have been removed and Mr Jach will spend next week taking out the old work tops and making the space ready for all the bits-and-bobs that are needed for a Year 2 classroom.



Then there are interactive boards to swap, some cabinet and storage construction in the spare classroom and various other, as-yet-unforeseen jobs to ensure that all the spaces are fit-for-purpose and as user-friendly as possible.

Thank you, Mr Jach. A lot of his work is unseen by the wider community, so a paean in the newsletter seems a fitting tribute.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards  
Edward Ferguson

## Diary Dates

Y6 swimming (every Tues this term)	Tues 30 Sept
Y6 museum trip	Wed 1 Oct
School book fair	after school 1 - 7 Oct

Y5 museum trip

Thurs 2 Oct

Coming up.....

Flu vaccination - consent <a href="#">here</a>	Fri 8 Oct
Breakfast cafe hosted by Y6	8.30am Fri 10 Oct
Harvest assembly 9am all parents/carers welcome	Fri 10 Oct
Reception forest school	Fri 10 Oct
Year 3 forest school	Fri 10 Oct
Open afternoon	Mon 13 Oct
Please check the school calendar on our <a href="#">website</a> , which is updated regularly.	

## Whole school news

### Book Fair at Newnham Croft

Don't forget that our school will be hosting a Book Fair from 1st to 7th October! This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your children to discover new books to enjoy at home, while also helping us raise funds to purchase new books for our school. The fair will take place after school each day. For full details, please see the attached flyer.

### Breakfast cafe

Ms Noble and Year 6 will be hosting a breakfast cafe on Friday 10 October, just before the Harvest Assembly. Come along and buy a pastry to help raise money to support the school. You are then invited to join us for Harvest Assembly, where the children will sing some seasonal songs.

### School photos

The Pret-a-portrait team is coming to take individual photos on Thursday 16 October. Siblings in school will be photographed together as well as individually. If you have siblings outside of school, they are offering a family session at 8.30am on that day. If you're interested in this, let the office know by email to [office@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk).

### School Meals

The weekly menu is attached and [online](#). The menu next week will be Week 2. The cost of a school meal is £2.75.

## Classroom news

### Reception

We've made it through our second full week of school—well done, everyone! Routines are starting to settle, and new friendships are beginning to blossom. This week, we have been getting ready for our phonics lessons which begin next week.

We've also enjoyed reading number stories and playing number games to build our maths skills in a fun way. We had our very first Forest School session, which was such an exciting opportunity to explore, learn, and play in the outdoors. In addition, we've been working hard to practise our song for the upcoming Harvest Festival on 10 October. To help us get used to performing in front of an audience, we sang in Thursday's assembly for the whole school. It was a wonderful chance to build our confidence, and we are really excited to share our performance at the festival!

#### **Year 1**

Year 1 has begun their new book adventure in English. We are reading the book *Puffin Peter* by Petr Horáček. This book tells the tale of two puffins, Peter and Paul. One day, Peter gets lost in a storm and Paul sets off to find him. The class do not know the ending of the book but have been predicting what might happen next in the story. We have been role playing the characters Paul meets on his search and writing speech bubbles of the conversations he might have had.

#### **Year 2**

This week in Year 2 we've been busy learning in lots of exciting ways. In gymnastics, the children learnt how to take off, perform a jump, and land safely. In geography, we explored the Equator on a world map, with some children challenging themselves by locating the countries and continents it runs through. DT was very hands-on as we practised making linkage systems using split pins and card. In English, we used adjectives to describe the Three Little Pigs and created expanded noun phrases. We also had fun writing imaginative sentences about the pigs' adventures, trying out different words instead of *said*. In science, the children explored different objects and materials, thinking about which are best suited to their uses. In maths, we worked on finding totals, giving change by counting up, and investigating different ways to make amounts using money. The children also took part in a money investigation in groups, and I was so impressed with their listening skills and teamwork!

#### **Year 3**

Year 3 has worked really hard throughout the week. In our maths sessions we have focused on adding amounts of money and writing them in pounds and pence (including amounts where the zero acts as a placeholder for example £1.05 or £0.95) In our English sessions we have looked at how various grammatical devices are used in diary entries, including the use of the past tense and apostrophes to show contraction. In geography, the children enjoyed learning about how different types of volcano are formed and had lots of fun drawing labelled diagrams of them. In our science session children enjoyed testing different rock samples to see which ones were permeable.

#### **Year 4**

In maths, we revised the methods we have previously been focusing on (counting on for subtraction, column addition and mental methods), deciding which would be best for each question. We also used our understanding of place value to write number sentences with < and >, and to add or subtract

1000 and 1. In English we finished our three part plans to get rid of the horrible cat and we started trying out speech punctuation. In RE we looked for connections between different world views. For spelling this week we looked at words with the prefixes il-, im-, and ir-, all meaning 'not.' In PSHE, we practised our conversational and listening skills, discussing what we like and learning new facts about each other. In science, we explored condensation and evaporation and looked at how water can change between its three states.

#### **Year 5**

As we continue our topic on Ancient Greece, Year 5 have been developing their debating skills by discussing whether everyone should be allowed to vote. In English, the class created their own villainous characters inspired by our book *Goth Girl* and wrote scenes featuring these characters. In maths, we have been working on decimal numbers, placing them on number lines and ordering them by considering place value to two decimal places. In science, Year 5 explored thermal conduction by testing how quickly boiling water cools when wrapped in different materials, measuring the temperature every five minutes for half an hour. Well done Year 5 for a hardworking and successful week!

#### **Year 6**

This week, Year 6 have been busy bees! On Tuesday we went swimming to the Leys once again. On Wednesday, we had 2 English tests: SPaG and spelling. In the afternoon, we had PE and music. We began to learn our song for the harvest assembly. (No spoilers for that!) On Thursday we had two splendid parents visit us and Y5 to talk about Greek philosophy. It was very informative and cool. We are also going to continue writing our detailed writings of *The Highwayman*. On Friday we did our third and final English test.

*By Ahyun and Kiana*

#### **PTA news**

The PTA kicked off their first meeting of the new school year on Tuesday evening.

As a group we reaffirmed our purpose of

1. Building community within and around the school
2. Raising funds to improve our kids' experience of school.

We have been given a clear steer by the school that the playground area under the trees is in a poor state and needs renovation. So, this will be the main focus of our fundraising efforts over the next two years.

To start things off with a bang, the PTA warmly invite everyone to fireworks night on Saturday 8 November. Please save the date and watch this space for further info.

Other exciting events coming up this term include Christmas tree sale and Winter Bizarre, including a blizzard of indoor snowballs. The PTA was pleased to agree funds towards the reinvigoration of the New Croft Plot and VR learning resources for years 3 & 4. If you would like to join the PTA, all can participate. Please do look out for future PTA meeting dates. Children of PTA members are also welcomed and get pizza and a film to watch while parents and teachers think of ways of making this wonderful school community even more welcoming, vibrant and fun for everyone!