

Newnham Croft Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr E Ferguson



Tuesday 2 September 2025

Autumn term – Year 6

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to the start of your child's year in Year 6 at Newnham Croft. We're looking forward to a busy and exciting term.

If you need to talk to us briefly or pass on a message, Mrs Turner or I will be on the playground before school everyday (on Thursdays, I may be slightly late coming outside because of netball club). Alternatively, you can make an appointment by emailing me kholliday@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk for a longer meeting. We are aiming for the children to be independent, so whenever possible, please do encourage your child to come and talk to us themselves if they have any queries or worries.

Our topic for the first half term is *Ancient Greece*. We will explore a variety of aspects of Ancient Greek culture, including gods and goddesses, myths and legends, and Athens and Sparta. If you have expertise in this area, we would love to hear from you. In previous years, parents have delivered workshops, assemblies and presentations, which greatly enriched the children's learning. Please do get in touch if this is something you would like to contribute to.

After half term, we will begin a new geography topic: *Would you like to live in the desert?* Our learning objectives for all subjects can be found in the curriculum overviews, available on the school website.

Dates for your diaries:

All classes will be having a short information meeting, for those able to attend, on **Friday the 5th of September at 9:00am**. This will be to discuss the information in this letter and talk about the year ahead; it will also be a chance for you to be able to put faces to the names of most of the adults working with your children this year.

Y6 swimming will start on **Tuesday 16th October** and continue for 10 weeks.

Whole school flu vaccination – Tuesday 16 September – more information coming from office soon

Harvest festival assembly – Friday 10 October - approximately 9am

Open Afternoon: Monday 13th October, 3.15pm–4.00pm – a chance to see your child's learning from the first half term.

Individual photographs – Thursday 16 October

Parent Consultations: Week beginning 20th October – details on booking will follow closer to the time.

Years 5 and 6 will visit the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge on **Friday 12th September**, and the Museum of Classical Archaeology (also in Cambridge) for a workshop on the Greeks on **Thursday 2nd October**. Both visits link closely with our topic of Ancient Greece. Further details will be shared soon.

Our class residential visit to Hilltop Outdoor Centre will take place from **18th to 21st March**.

Please keep an eye on the [school calendar](#) which updated regularly and read our weekly newsletter, which is sent on Friday afternoons.

Reading Club

A reminder that we offer a Reading Club in the mornings, from 8am, should you need to drop your child off early. No need to book, just bring your child to the school office. The cost is £4.00 per session and is payable on the SchoolGateway app.

Year 6 Staff:

I will be teaching Year 6 for the majority of their lessons and be with them for most of the week. Mrs Turner will be teaching maths and RE lessons on Friday mornings and teaching the class every other Friday afternoon while I have Assistant Headteacher time with Ms Mangera.

On Wednesday afternoons, Year 6 will have PE with one of the Premier Sports teachers; this starts with cross-country so please ensure your child has warm, suitable activewear. Our second PE lesson this term will be swimming on Tuesdays; please look out for the letter the office will be sending home.

Music lessons with Mrs Onatskaia will also continue to be on Thursday afternoons. Ms Noble will continue to use her language expertise as we team teach our weekly French sessions on Tuesdays.

We are lucky to be able to have TAs working with us in Year 6 this year: Ms D'Oyly will join us on Monday mornings and Mrs Elbourne four mornings from Tuesday - Friday.

Home learning:

Home learning will be weekly SPaG and maths booklets, which will be given out on Monday and returned by Friday. This will start on Monday 8th September. The children have a choice of optional extra maths challenges as well. It is very useful if children read for at least fifteen minutes a day at home. Please also support your child with practising their spellings; we will

send home extra copies of these this week. This can be done anyway that suits your family; it's most important that the children understand the words so they can have a go at using them.

This year, there will be a change to how homework is marked in Years 5 and 6. We will be asking the children to check and mark their own work, as they already do in their maths lessons at school. This approach will allow adults more time supporting in class and will allow children to see immediately whether they have answered a question correctly and to make corrections straight away if needed. As always, the children are welcome to come to lunchtime Homework Club if they need extra support with any area of maths or English. To ensure the children are completing their homework, we will still be asking them to bring their books into school every Friday so we can see what they have been practising at home. We would also like to reassure you that we continue to set less homework than many other schools in the area. This is because we believe strongly that children should have plenty of time outside to play, socialise, and join clubs where they can enjoy languages, sports, creative activities, and cooking. We therefore set a small amount of homework in Years 5 and 6 as part of preparing the children for secondary school. Thank you, as always, for supporting your child with their learning at home.

Finally, if any of the areas of study this term are your areas of expertise, please get in touch. In previous years we have had parents delivering workshops, assemblies and presentations, so please do get in touch if this is something you would like to do.

Medications

If your child requires medication to be kept at school (e.g. an inhaler) please ensure these are brought to school in the original packaging, with the pharmacy label showing your child's name. If your child requires medication such as antibiotics or painkillers, please bring to the school office and fill in a form to allow us to administer this medication.

Contact details

If any of your contact or address details have changed over the summer, please ensure you update the office.

Best wishes,

Ms Holliday