



Newnham News

Friday 11 September 2026

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

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Dear Parents/Carers,

So many moving parts in the world! After the first week back, the tyranny of the immediate is steadily building, the distant vultural speck of emails, challenges, audits, assemblies, plans, feedback, rotas, roofing etc. etc. etc.!

This isn't necessarily a problem - it's just life - but steps must be taken to prevent it becoming a red-zone issue.

And for me, one of those steps is backwards - and then further back, until the big picture comes into focus. Which was helped by the assembly on Thursday, which looked at the school vision.

"To help every child find the confidence, self-belief and resilience that will enable them to explore, value and appreciate the world."

Momentarily, those swirling clouds break and allow clarity and focus. This is what it is all about. This is the "why" of all those tasks, conversations, activities, pressures and problems. Perfect!

And then back to the day-to-day, minute-to-minute, but soothed by the worthwhile of the purpose. Just need to remember to keep coming back to that big picture.

Happy weekends, everyone.

Kind regards,
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

Reception children in full time	Mon 14 Sept
Y3 trip to Wandlebury	Tues 15 Sept
Y6 swimming	(for 10 weeks) Wed 16 Sept
PTA meeting	6pm Thur 17 Sept

Please check the school calendar on our [website](#), which is updated regularly.

Whole school news

School Meals

The menu is attached and [online](#). The menu next week is Week 3. The cost of a school meal is £2.90.

Free School Meals

If you are in receipt of certain benefits, you may be entitled to funding for school meals. The system has changed this year and even if you currently receive Free School Meals, you must reapply after 1 August to secure funding for next year. For more information see www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals. If you have any questions please email the Education Welfare Benefits Service (Free School Meals Team) on ewb.fsm@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or 01223 703200.

Classroom news

Reception

What a wonderful first week we have had in Reception! The children have settled in so well and have done a fantastic job during their first week of half days. They are already beginning to learn and follow our many classroom routines, which is wonderful to see. This week, we have been reading our class book, *This Is a School*, and talking all about school, what we do here and the different people who help to make our school such a special place. We also had a great time meeting everyone during our school tour. The children enjoyed exploring the school and getting to know some of the familiar faces they will see throughout their time with us.

Year 1

We have begun exploring seasonal changes in our science learning. So far, the children have been learning to name the four seasons and the months within each season. We have also started investigating different types of weather, learning to recognise and use common weather symbols. The children have enjoyed sharing their own observations of the weather and thinking about how it changes throughout the year.

Year 2

Year 2 has had a very positive first week and they should be very proud. This week in English, we have dived into our new topic by exploring a range of traditional tales. The children identified their key features and discussed their similarities and differences. We solved clues and discovered mystery objects around the school grounds before ending the week by writing a letter to Mr Ferguson to help solve our mystery. In science, we grouped objects based on their properties and discussed how materials are chosen for their uses. In geography, we named and located the seven continents. In computing, we looked at the uses and features of information technology. In maths, we have been focusing on place value. The children used greater than, less than and equal to symbols to compare numbers. We also practised estimation, adding 10 to one- and two-digit numbers, and explored the value of different digits. Well done, Year 2, on a wonderful start to the year!



Year 2 drawings inspired by *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds

Year 3

Year 3 has made a really positive start to the new academic year and has been really enthusiastic about our new history and science topics in particular. In maths, the children learnt how to add and subtract 2- and 3-digit numbers using their knowledge of ones, tens and hundreds. In English lessons lots of fun was had when thinking about the problems that might be associated with washing a woolly mammoth. The children also learnt to recognise what nouns and imperative verbs are. In our history sessions the children enjoyed using charcoal to create their own cave paintings and clay to make their own Stone Age jewellery.

Year 4

Year 4 started the week with excitement as we opened our mystery box of archaeological evidence which led us to working in teams to investigate *How Big is a Woolly Mammoth's Bath?* I was impressed how exceptionally well the children worked in teams and how every child shone bringing their talents to a group. We began our learning journey in English to learn to write a more sophisticated, but amusing, set of instructions "How to wash a woolly mammoth". In maths we have learnt to recognise the value of digits in 4 digit numbers through expanded partitioning and began to read numbers to 10,000. We've also been practising the 4 and 8 timetables. In art we studied the artist M.C. Escher and how he used light and dark to create 3D drawings. Our historical enquiry question was "What is prehistory?" which led to some very interesting discussions before we learnt how archaeologists use observation and inference when studying prehistoric objects.

Year 5

Year 5 has had a great first full week back. They were introduced to their new topic, World War II. Year 5 explored the events leading up to it and then they did an evacuation role-play using gas masks which they had made from card and foil last week. In English, the class has started a new topic unit around the story, *The Cloud Tea Monkeys* by Elspeth Graham and Mal Peet. We have started to explore figurative language found in the first few pages and Year 5 completed a writing piece based on the setting of the story using fronted adverbials. In maths, the class has been exploring 5- and 6-digit numbers, rounding these numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 10,000 and 100,000. Finally, the class had a go at mixing substances together to see the impact. Thank you to everyone who attended our first session of running club on Thursday. Well done for a brilliant week Year 5.

Year 6

This week in Year 6 we learnt more about World War II in history. We took part in an evacuation, wearing our gas masks that we had made. In science, we learnt that light travels in straight lines and used torches to experiment. In maths, we were looking at adding and subtracting, using formal methods. Our work in English has been based on the Highwayman where we learnt about the features of the poem.

By Annabel and Alice

PTA

The next meeting will be on 17th September at 6pm in the Y6 classroom.

Community news

Cambridge United discount vouchers

**CAMBRIDGE UNITED FC**

SCHOOLS
TICKET VOUCHER

APPLICABLE FIXTURES

			
26TH SEP 2026 15:00	10TH OCT 2026 15:00	24TH OCT 2026 15:00	21ST NOV 2026 15:00

ADULT AND U18 FOR £12!



THIS CODE ENTITLES THE HOLDER TO 1X ADULT & 1 X U18 SEATED TICKET IN THE MEAD PLANT & GRAB FAMILY SOUTH STAND FOR £12.00. THIS CODE CAN BE REDEEMED FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE APPLICABLE FIXTURES VIA CUFCTICKETS.COM. REDEMPTIONS ARE LIMITED TO ONE PER PERSON AND ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

PLEASE NOTE ALL FIXTURES SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PLEASE CHECK WWW.CAMBRIDGEUNITED.COM FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION.

CODE: SCHOOL52627

WITH FIXTURES ANTICIPATED TO SELL OUT, WE ADVISE BOOKING TICKETS WELL IN ADVANCE TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  **a.r.u.** Anglia Ruskin University

Half term singing camp

Ensemble L'Isola have a half term camp in Cambridge for children who love to sing. See the attached leaflet for more information.

**WOMEN**

BACK IN THE CITY

HOME FIXTURES

				
20 SEP 2026 CLEDDARA ABBEY 14:00 KO	18 OCT 2026 GRANGE ROAD 14:00 KO	08 NOV 2026 GRANGE ROAD 14:00 KO	29 NOV 2026 GRANGE ROAD 14:00 KO	06 DEC 2026 GRANGE ROAD 14:00 KO
				
10 JAN 2027 GRANGE ROAD 14:00 KO	11 FEB 2027 GRANGE ROAD 19:45 KO	14 MAR 2027 GRANGE ROAD 14:00 KO	25 APR 2027 CLEDDARA ABBEY 14:00 KO	

ADULT AND U18 FOR £6!



THIS CODE ENTITLES THE HOLDER TO 1X ADULT & 1 X U18 TICKET FOR £6.00. THIS CODE CAN BE REDEEMED FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE APPLICABLE FIXTURES VIA CUFCTICKETS.COM. REDEMPTIONS ARE LIMITED TO ONE PER PERSON AND ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

PLEASE NOTE ALL FIXTURES SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PLEASE CHECK WWW.CAMBRIDGEUNITED.COM FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION.

CODE: COWFC6

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW AT CUFCTICKETS.COM