

# Newnham Croft Primary School

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Interim Headteacher: Mr E. Ferguson



Wednesday, 04 January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back to a new year at Newnham Croft Primary School. We hope that you've all had a very restful winter break.

## As a reminder

Just to remind everyone, the bell for the start of the day will be rung at 8.45am and the children will be asked to line up in the playground, where they will be taken into the class by their class teacher. One bell will ring at 8.45am to signal that it's time for the children to line up and say goodbye to their parents. Then another bell will ring to signal the start of school. All children will continue to line up just outside the Year 4 classroom as they had done last term, where their teacher will greet them. In addition to this, the end of the school day will remain at 3.15pm.

We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child arrives promptly for the start of the school day as this avoids disruptions, and if they could also be collected on time. If your child is late at the beginning of the school day, please sign them in at the office.

## First Spring Topic

KS1 shall begin the spring term by focusing on the topic 'Explorers.' This topic is designed to teach the children about significant explorers from history and explore why some people are considered to be significant before going on to learn about some different explorers. Children will be learning about a range of female and male explorers from all over the world, which will provide them with a great opportunity to find out about any explorer that may have originated near them. In writing sessions, the children will be asking and answering questions and creating narratives and pieces of non-fiction, such as biographies based on explorers studied.

## Items Required for School

Children will need to bring a school coat, a bag/box containing packed lunch if they are having a packed lunch and a labelled water bottle to keep themselves hydrated during the school day. There will be no need for pencil cases or any other items from home as these will be provided at school.

## Active Wear and PE (Physical Education)

All children will be expected to come to school wearing active wear. This includes, trainers, leggings/ comfortable trousers, t-shirt/ long sleeved t-shirt (suitable clothing which allows the children to exercise/run around and is appropriate for any PE lesson). Boots and sandals are not active wear, instead trainers should be worn. It is essential that if your child is not wearing the correct clothing for PE that they have appropriate clothing with them on the days that we have PE. Hair will need to be tied up and no jewellery should be worn at school, not just in sessions of PE.

## Early Morning Activities

Each morning the children will have an activity to complete as they arrive at school. This generally reinforces a concept in Maths, Reading or English. This ensures a calm, purposeful start to the day.

### **Tuesday Afternoons**

Every Tuesday afternoon, class teachers will be out of class planning and preparing lessons. On these afternoons Premier Sports teachers shall be teaching PE (Physical Education); Mrs Onatskaia will be teaching Music; and Mrs Marroncelli will be teaching RE on a three week rotation.

### **Reading**

We shall continue emphasising to the children the importance of reading at home on a daily basis. It is really important that your child reads to you for at least ten minutes a day, as well as discussing the book, being read to and enjoying stories for pleasure. We shall continue to exchange library books once a week, so please ensure that books are brought back once read on the day that your class teacher has agreed. E-books will still be placed on the Big Cat reading portal weekly. Please continue to read these with your child every day.

### **Whole School Open Afternoon**

In preparation for Parent Consultations, parents will have the opportunity to come into their child's classroom and look through their work (books) to see what they have been learning about. This will take place on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January from 3.15pm to 4.15pm.**

### **Parent Consultations**

Parent consultations will take place on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February between 3.30pm and 6.00pm and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February between 1.30pm and 4.00pm.

### **Snacks and Water Bottles**

Snacks are provided for playtime (fruit or vegetable). Please continue to send a labelled bottle of water each day. Drinking water throughout the day helps to keep children well hydrated.

### **Forest School**

Forest School sessions will take place next half term and the dates for each class can be found below:

Mrs Markham's class – on the morning of **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

Miss Wakelen's class – on the morning of **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Mrs Cullen and Mrs Palmer's Class – on the afternoon of **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

### **Religious Education**

The children will be finding out about special religious occasions and how people celebrate them. If you would like to come in and talk to the children about the celebrations in your home, please contact your class teacher.

### **Communication**

If you wish to talk to your class teacher regarding any aspect of your child's schooling please feel free to briefly chat to us at the start or end of the school day or email the school office and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support in making such a positive and happy start for your children in this new school year. We look forward to a happy half term ahead.

With best wishes

The Key Stage One Team

Miss Wakelen – Year 1 class teacher, Mrs Markham – Year 1/2 class teacher

Mrs Cullen/ Mrs Palmer – Year 2 class teachers