

Newnham Croft Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr E. Ferguson



Tuesday, 05 September 2023

Autumn term at Newnham Croft – Key Stage One

Dear Parents / Carers

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

Start and end times of the school day

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 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. The end of the school day is at 3.15pm.

- Year 1 (Miss Wakelen's class) will take her class to the front playground and dismiss her class from the hall doors.
- Year 1/2 children (Mrs Markham's class) will be brought to the front playground to be collected from the little playground (on the image of a world map) nearest the cage
- In Year 2, (Miss Harvey's class) will be brought to the front playground to be collected near the Year 5 classroom (Mrs Turner's room).

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 autumn topic

KS1 shall begin this year by exploring the topic '**All About Me.**' This topic is a nice introduction to KS1, where your child will have the opportunity to learn and write about themselves. This area of their learning will also support them with settling into their new class and adjusting to a new routine. Their writing will include a class set of rules to follow and stories based around their emotions. They will also discover their place in the world, through sessions of Geography. Your child will also experiment with the shapes and textures of different materials in lessons of Science and in English, your child will read and be exposed to class books, which will help to build up language for when they describe themselves.

Meet the teacher meeting

On **Wednesday 6th September at 9am** you will have an opportunity to go to your child's new classroom, where your class teacher and other staff members assisting in that class will talk to you about the routine, expectations, curriculum and any other important aspects of Key Stage One.

Items required for school

Children will need to bring a school coat, 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 or long sleeved t-shirt, ie suitable clothing which allow the children to exercise and run around, and appropriate for any PE lesson. Boots and sandals are not active wear, instead trainers should be worn. Hair will also need to be tied up and no jewellery, including earrings should be worn whilst 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. If you wish to speak to the teacher to discuss any issues relating to your child's school life, please feel free to email the teacher or the office.

Tuesday afternoons

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

Reading

We shall be talking to the children about 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 and being read to, to reinforce the enjoyment of reading stories for pleasure. We will be using the same Big Cat Collins e-portal for your child to access their reading books. If you are having difficulties signing in, please let your class teacher know and they will issue you with a new login. Just like last year, your child will also be able to take books out of the library, to take home and then return once a week. To further encourage your child with their reading, we shall be issuing reading logs to your child and when they have completed 50 reading sessions, they will receive a reading certificate.

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 the **9th October from 3.15pm to 4.15pm**.

Parent consultations

Parent consultations will be during the **week of 16th October**; more information about how to book a parent consultation with your class teacher will be released closer to the time.

Key Stage One Christmas performance

The Key Stage One Christmas production will take place in December and further details of this will be shared with parents closer to the time. The dates of this are:

- Tuesday 12th December at 2pm
- Wednesday 13th December 9.30am

You are welcome to come and watch the performance on one of these dates.

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 this are to be confirmed.

Please ensure that your child has warm and waterproof clothing with them on the day as failure to do this causes disruption and delay in getting started.

Religious Education

The children will be finding out about special religious occasions and how people celebrate them. Many families will be celebrating special occasions this term, which have a religious significance for them e.g. Diwali, Hanukah and Christmas. 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

Miss Harvey – Year 2 class teacher