



# Newnham News

Friday 14 February 2025

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

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Dear parents/carers,

## The Newnham Code – Be kind! Be respectful! Be a thinker! Never give up!



After all these years, these values still embody the traits we strive to instill in our children—not only those that shape kind and responsible citizens but also those that serve them as individuals.

Being kind and never giving up, in particular, are key ingredients for a successful life.

In our Awards Assemblies, the *High Flyers* that children receive are not for getting everything right or excelling in a particular subject. Instead, they celebrate kindness, hard work, and perseverance—the qualities that lead to brilliance in a subject. Or, just as importantly, the effort and determination that drive even the smallest improvement. Or, perhaps most impressively, the resilience to keep going despite setbacks and frustrations.

What a powerful mindset—to feel challenged, to struggle, yet to persevere and refuse to give up!

Children who embody these traits, regardless of their academic ability, tend to be the happiest in school. They learn to navigate setbacks with confidence, developing a resilience that will serve them well throughout life.

Recently, our School Council launched a competition to redesign the images on the Newnham Code. Perhaps your child(ren) will have a go at this over half-term.

What won't be changing, however, is the fundamental message: **Be kind. Be respectful. Be a thinker. Never give up.**

Wishing you all a happy and restful half-term!

Kind regards  
Edward Ferguson

## Diary Dates

Back to school

Mon 24 Feb

Y5 swimming (and every Tues this term) Tues 25 Feb

Y5 forest school morning Fri 28 Feb

Y2 forest school afternoon Fri 28 Feb

Next Y4 Grafham Water payment due Fri 28 Feb

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

## Whole school news

### World Book Day - Thursday 6 March

We would like to give you advance warning that on World Book Day children will be given the opportunity to dress up as a character from one of their favourite books, the book itself or anything book related. Please don't feel the need to buy a costume, maybe you can make or improvise a costume - be creative!

### School Meals

The weekly menu is attached. The menu next week will be Week 1. The cost of a school meal is £2.65.

## Classroom news

### Reception

Reception has had a lovely final week. We have finished exploring the *Naughty Bus*. All children had a picture taken of where they think the bus should go on an adventure. They then wrote a little sentence to accompany their picture, remembering to include a full stop and a capital letter. In maths, children have been counting forwards and backwards to 20. They have also been looking at the different formations of numbers up to 20 and they then used multi-link to create what the numbers look like. We spent our phonics sessions completing our phonic Spring term assessment. To celebrate the end of our topic this week, we looked at pictures and photographs of transport from the past and the children created their own versions. Well done for a brilliant final week Reception.

### Year 1

This week was the culmination of all of the learning we have been doing in design and technology. After learning about how to categorise fruit and prepare fruit, last week we had a tasting session of an assortment of fruit. Based on this, the class were asked to design their own fruit smoothies, taking into consideration which fruit they enjoyed the taste of. Some children, for example, didn't like the taste of bananas, however when in a smoothie with blueberries, strawberries and pineapple, the taste of banana made the smoothie taste great!

## Year 2

In English, we wrapped up our adventure stories and finally finished reading *Grandad's Island*—a moment we had all been eagerly awaiting. Stepping into Grandad's shoes, we wrote letters to Syd, sharing how life on the island had been since he left. The children also completed a comprehension task on the book. In maths, we focused on multiplication and division, ending the week by tackling word problems. In history, we explored the life of Neil Armstrong, asking thoughtful questions about his journey. We also worked together to create a class timeline featuring all the significant explorers we've looked at so far. In DT, we completed our pouches, with some children adding a button as a final touch. Well done, Year 2, for all your hard work! We hope you have a fun and restful half-term break.

## Year 3

Year 3 has worked really hard throughout the last week of the half term. In maths, the children learnt how to use the expanded column method to subtract 2 and 3-digit numbers with and without borrowing. They also worked on placing numbers with increasing accuracy along a 0-1000 numbers line. In English, the children completed their non-chronological reports on a mysterious animal they had discovered living in the Amazon rainforest. In our geography session, they presented some of the data they had gathered from last week's fieldwork session and analysed the questionnaires that had been completed by members of the public. In science, the children looked back on the unit on light and shadows and recorded what they had learnt and enjoyed. Thanks for all of your support. I hope you all find time to relax over the break. No spellings this week.

## Year 4

What a great week to finish off the half term. We completed our beautiful sgraffito art project by adding tropical flower shapes. In maths we have used co-ordinates. We also used our knowledge of polygons and angle sizes to write algorithms that would draw shapes and patterns on the computer. We found the REPEAT command very useful. In English we have turned our amazing Grimwood stories into a class book. For our topic, we looked at how different our environment is, compared to a rainforest, and carried out surveys to find out how people use the local area. No spellings this week - please practice your times tables. Don't forget to look out for the script, song words and acting role in the play - coming home tonight.

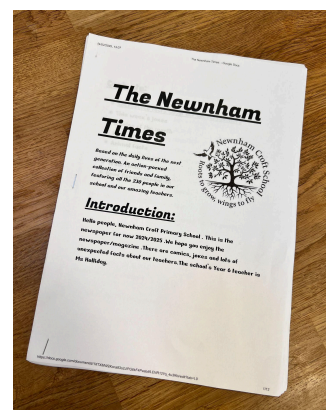
## Year 5

We had a brilliant last week of term, including a visit to St John's School to hear author A. F. Steadman talk about her Skandar series and also were lucky enough to have a visiting astronomer from the Institute of Astronomy come into school. In English, we finished writing and editing our instructions and explanations for an invented form of transport. In maths, we practised multiplying non-unit fractions by whole numbers and then moved onto looking at highest common factors and lowest common multiples.

## Year 6

This week Year 6 made the first newspaper. We also went to listen to a real author talk about a book they had written. We also were taught PSHE by Ms Turner. On Wednesday, some of our class went to a football tournament. On Monday, people made Top Trumps about the planets. Over the last couple of days, we have been planning a dance assembly.

*By Rowan and Khalil*



Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter, a copy of which can be found on our school website: [www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk).

## Community news

### Financial Literacy - New Extra Curricular Club

**Money management is a vital skill, as everyone will deal with money and make financial decisions at some point in their lives:**

- earn
- budget
- save
- invest
- spend
- borrow

Kids start developing their beliefs and values about money at a very young age (around 7 years old), so now is the perfect time to teach them how money works and how to use it effectively to achieve their goals. Fun activities, games and challenges will be used to support this.

Imagine raising our kids to be able to follow their dreams and work on their passions, where money won't be an objection.

Financial literacy can raise early-career earnings prospects by up to 28%. Children with high financial literacy are also more likely to start a business, employ people, and actively contribute to the country's growth.

Main benefits for kids:

- Empowered kids who take control of their future and their dreams to be able to live a life on their own terms
- Financial independence: more self-reliant and less dependent on others
- Improved decision-making: spending, saving, investing, borrowing
- Ability to differentiate instant and delayed gratification
- Instil a sense of accountability and responsibility

For more information and feedback, please contact Diogo Marinho:

- 07799651051

- [diogo.m.marinho@gmail.com](mailto:diogo.m.marinho@gmail.com)

Thank you, Diogo (Tomás' dad)

**Cambridge United reduced tickets**

Please see the attached poster for reduced tickets to see Cambridge United play.