



Newnham News

Friday 4 October 2024

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

[NET donation link](#)

Whole school news

Dear parents/carers,

The school hall and classrooms have rung to the sound of autumn songs in preparation for our Harvest assembly on Monday morning. Children fine-tuning their voices, under the ever-watchful eye of Mrs Onatskaia, for your aural delight. We hope to see lots of you there for this wonderful start to the week - gratitude and melody.

Linking to this, in Wednesday's assembly we welcomed Barry and Matt, both volunteers for [It Takes A City](#). This is the homeless charity we will be collecting for on Monday (there is a list attached for suggested donations).

Matt spoke about his journey. He had to leave his unsafe home forty years ago, forcing him to spend the next decade homeless - sometimes on friends' sofas, sometimes on the streets. After ten years, he was offered a place at a refuge, where the kindness shown to him by the volunteers was transformative.

It was as valuable as any of the assemblies I can remember having and hopefully gave the children a better understanding of, and more purpose to, our forthcoming collection.

Kind regards
Edward Ferguson

Suggested donations: UHT milk, tinned goods, sugar, instant coffee, crisps, biscuits, chocolate, men's deodorants, sleeping bags, warm clothing (coats, tracksuit bottoms, hoodies)

Diary Dates

Harvest assembly (parents welcome)	9 - 10am	Mon 7 Oct
Y6 swimming	(and every Tues)	Tues 8 Oct
Year 4 forest school	morning	Fri 11 Oct
Year 1 forest school	afternoon	Fri 11 Oct
Open afternoon	3.15 - 4.00pm	Mon 14 Oct
Y5/6 cross country		Thurs 17 Oct
Year 6 forest school	morning	Fri 18 Oct
Year 1 forest school	afternoon	Fri 18 Oct

Please check the school calendar on our website, which is updated regularly.

Open afternoon

On Monday 14 October, we are having an open afternoon, where children can show their parents and carers their school books and the work they have done. From 3.15pm to 4pm.

Suitable clothing

As the weather changes to slightly cooler temperatures and often much wetter conditions, please ensure your child has suitably warm and waterproof coats with them as children are encouraged outside as often as possible, even in the drizzle!

Lunchtime supervisor

We would very much like to hear from anyone who might like to work in school as a lunchtime supervisor. The hours are 11.45 am - 1.15 pm, two to five days a week. The pay is £11.79 per hour. This is a lovely job involving facilitating and supervising the children's play outside, encouraging them to eat our delicious school dinners and a little bit of sweeping up and wiping tables. If you are interested please contact the office 01223 508737 or office@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk

School Meals

The weekly menu is attached. The menu next week will be Week 2. The cost of a school meal is £2.50.

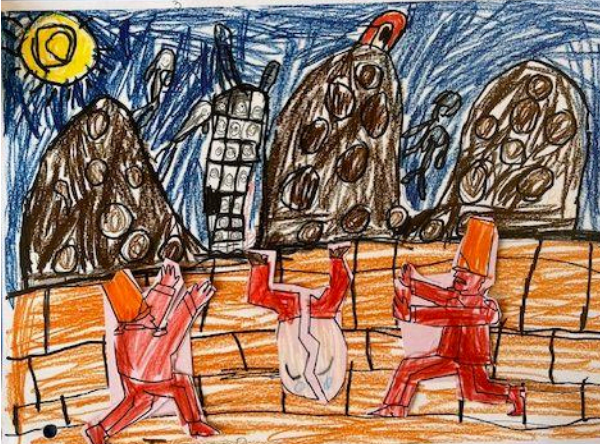
Classroom news

Reception

Reception has worked very hard this week. They continued with their learning of initial sounds by exploring the phonemes; i, n, m and d. Some of the children chose to use their active learning to practise mark making these graphemes. In maths, all children helped our class puppet, Mr Muddles the mole, with counting up to 10 using number cards. The children used subitising to help them work out which numbers Mr Muddles had left out. In PE, as we prepare to use the balance bikes, all children practised their balancing skills. We also introduced more junk modelling. If parents have more cardboard (no bigger than a cereal box), and plastic bottles that they are happy to donate to Reception, we'd be more than happy to take those off of your hands. Well done for a great week Reception! We are very proud of how well you're all settling in.

Year 1

Over the past few weeks, Year 1 has been finding out about the enjoyment and function of books with moving parts. They have been looking at how sliding mechanisms are



constructed and have designed and created moving pictures for the nursery rhyme *Humpty Dumpty*. They have been creating the books for the younger children in Newnham Nursery and are looking forward to sharing them next week.

Year 2

This week in maths, we've been using number bonds to ten to figure out how many we need to count to reach the next multiple of ten. We've also been practising adding and subtracting ten with the help of a hundred square. In English, the children have worked hard to learn the actions and words for our traditional tale, *The Three Little Pigs*. We've also been sequencing the events of the story using a storyboard. In DT, we've continued working in teams of three to create our moving storybooks. In computing, we roleplayed as supermarket tills and discussed the benefits of information technology. In science, we've been learning to identify and compare the suitability of everyday materials. In geography, we've been investigating daily weather patterns. Well done for a fantastic week, Year 2! Please remember to bring your reading book on Wednesday.

Year 3

Year 3 has worked incredibly hard throughout the week. In maths they have learnt to find missing numbers using the inverse operation ($___ + 8 = 39$) and use known number facts to help us add 1-digit numbers to 2 and 3-digit numbers ($48 + 5 = 53$, $178 + 5 = 183$). In English, the children enjoyed listening to *Stone Age Boy* by Satoshi Kitamura. The children enjoyed writing questions to him and thinking about how he might answer them. Later on in the week the children wrote descriptions of some of the settings found in the story. In science the children enjoyed discovering what soil is made of. In history we started to look at the Bronze Age and think about what some of the artefacts that have been recovered are and what they tell us about the people who lived during this time.

Year 4

Well done Year 4 for another hard working week. In English we have organised our favourite facts about the stone age into paragraphs. In maths we have revised the eight times

table facts that we learnt in year 3, ready to start work on the 7s and 12s. This would be a good time to practise the 8s at home to make sure you have quick recall. In science we have been trying out different classification keys for minibeasts to decide which ones work best. In art we have planned a 3d model based on our class story, considering shapes, colours and backgrounds. For spelling this week we have been looking at words beginning with the prefix sub- as well as revising words from Year 1/2. Please see the attached list of spelling words.

Year 5

In English, we began our new topic, focusing on the book *I Like this Poem* (edited by Kaye Webb). We discussed what types of poetry we enjoy and began to explore some of the poems in the anthology. We then had a go at learning a poem by heart and performing it. In maths, we practised adding and subtracting numbers to two decimal places, using the counting on method. We really enjoyed our trip to Bletchley Park on Thursday and were also lucky enough to have a kind parent come in earlier in the week to talk about the technology from WW2 that led to the development of some of our current technology.

Year 6

This week we have been starting to plan our Masterchef competition. We got into groups and started exploring recipes that were savoury and use a rising agent. We've been working through the Year 5 and 6 spellings and thinking about ways to help learn them by looking at their etymology, syllables, phonemes and spelling patterns. In science we made booklets about the lifecycle of birds, which we shared with Year 1.
By Khalil, Adam and Patrick

Yesterday, Year 5 and 6 visited Bletchley Park as part of their WWII learning. We learnt about encryption using the Enigma and how it was used to communicate during the war. We even had a go at using it! We tried having a go at cracking some simpler codes before finding out how many coding combinations the enigma machine could create -



158,962,555,217,826,360,000! We found out how the clever coders worked in secret to try to solve ciphers used by the Nazis and the breakthroughs of Turing and others.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter, a copy of which can be found on our school website:

PTA News

Barn Dance food

There will be food at this evening's Barn Dance, with a delicious menu prepared by Year 6. Don't forget to bring cash/card and an empty tummy!

Community news

Parenting workshops

Our EIFA (Education Inclusion Family Advisor) for Newnham Croft is Shelley Bari. Her role is to provide parents and carers with knowledgeable advice on a variety of parenting subjects. The newsletter attached gives information about how to contact her as well as some details of free parenting workshops covering challenges such as anxiety, anger and sleep.

Great Fen activities

Please see the attached leaflets on upcoming events in the Great Fen.