



Newnham News

Friday 10 January 2025

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

[NET donation link](#)

Dear parents/carers,

A happy New Year to you all and welcome back to school.

We hope that you all had a lovely break, that you all signed off 2024 appropriately and that you are all looking forward to a positive and joyful 2025.

If you haven't yet managed to channel that 2025 positivity, you can at least look forward to the weekend and enjoy all the children's learning in the classroom news below.

Kind regards
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

Y5 Bikeability		Mon 13 - Thurs 16 Jan
PTA meeting	6pm	Tues 14 Jan
Y3 and 4 visit to Botanic Gardens		Thur 16 Jan
Y5 Thorpe Woodland deposit due		Fri 17 Jan
Y6 SATs chat with Ms Holliday	2.40pm	Fri 17 Jan
Y5 swimming (and every Tues this term)		Tues 21 Jan
Y6 breakfast cafe	8.30am	Fri 24 Jan

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



The frosty field

Whole school news

Cambridge half-marathon fundraising

It's that time again, when I am dusting down the running shoes and excusing the extra puddings for this year's half-marathon on March 9th. I am raising money for the same charity as Mrs Markham did in 2023, CPSL Mind, who help provide vital services and support for those struggling with their mental health. If you would like to sponsor me, please click [here](#) to go to my fundraising page. Any amount gratefully received.

Thank you, Edward Ferguson

After school clubs

Please refer to the [timetable](#) on our website for start and end dates of clubs and make a note of the pick-up time.

School Meals

The weekly menu is attached. The menu next week will be Week 2. The cost of a school meal is £2.65.

Classroom news

Reception

It has been lovely welcoming Reception back this week. They've coped very well with the busy and cold start to the Spring term. We have introduced the children to our new topic of *Journeys*. We talked about the journeys we have made over the winter break and the journeys we regularly make. We also discussed the types of transportation we use to make those journeys. In maths, we have looked at 'more than one' and 'less than one'. We also explored ordering numbers using Numicon. In Phonics, we have started looking at Phase 3 and this week, the children have looked at the sounds; 'ai', 'ee', 'igh' and 'oa.' Reception also reviewed their phase 2 tricky words; "the", "I", "put", "pull" and "full." In literacy, Reception has been introduced to their new book *Naughty Bus* by Jan and Jerry Oke. Well done for a fantastic week Reception!

Year 1

At the end of the autumn term, Year 1 looked at the use and format of instructions. We did this by following recipes in a cookbook. On our return to school this term, we are looking at instructions in another format. This time, we are finding out about creating commands for a robot. The children discussed and explained that robots can only follow instructions or commands that humans have created for them and that robots can help humans do different tasks.



Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have been looking at plants and their structures in science. We've also made an exciting start to our *Explorers* topic. The students have been researching some of the most famous explorers and learning about their adventures and discoveries. We are excited to continue this journey through time! In maths, we've been focusing on data. The children have been practicing how to collect, organise, and display their findings using block graphs and pictograms. They have enjoyed drawing and interpreting graphs to represent different sets of data. We are enjoying our new story *Grandad's Island* and in English we have looked at the structure of speech within a story and made predictions of what will happen next. What a fantastic week we've had in Year 2!

Year 3

Year 3 has had a great first week back. They have shown lots of enthusiasm for our new topic on why rainforests are important to us and many of them have brought in books that they are keen to share with the rest of the class. In our geography lessons, we looked at the location of the Amazon Rainforest and what biome it belongs to and how this compares to other biomes found in the world. In our maths lessons, the children learnt how to calculate and measure the perimeter of 2D shapes. In English lessons the children continued to work on punctuating direct speech and started to plan an extra section that could be added to *The Snowman* by Raymond Briggs. Please remember we have a trip to the Botanic Gardens on Thursday - dress warmly and bring a packed lunch.

Year 4

Welcome back. We were very lucky this week to have a visit from the life bus. We thought about what is good for our body and brain. We were excited to start our new topic about rainforests and found out about where they are in the world. We also started a new science unit about light. We found out about sources of light and how the eye sees. In maths we are looking at fractions. So far we have counted up in quarters and thirds. We have also found fractions of amounts and equivalent fractions. In English we have been continuing work on *Grimwood*, using

our summarising and note taking skills. Spelling words this weekend ending in -sion.

Please remember we have a trip to the Botanic Gardens on Thursday - dress warmly and bring a packed lunch.

Year 5

Y5 has had a brilliant start back after the holidays. In English, we have started our new topic by reading and discussing short stories from *Tales from Outer Suburbia* by Shaun Tan. In maths, we continued with our decimals and fractions topic by practising adding and subtracting decimals, using both column method and, for subtraction, number line method. In science, we started our new topic, Earth, Sun and Moon, by learning the order of the planets and making a display with each planet to scale. We also learned about the distances between the planets and why it is impossible to build a scale model including distance in the classroom. In PSHE, we talked about the different aspects that make up our identities, the importance of people's names and also discussed gender identity (including the vocabulary trans, cis and non-binary).

Please remember we have Bikeability from Monday to Thursday, so bring bikes and helmets.

Also, please note that the £70 deposit for the Thorpe Woodlands trip is due by 17 January 2025.

Year 6

We wish you a Happy New Year. We have started 7 new subjects and 1 new book. In English we have been studying non-fiction and have started reading a class book called *Ghost*. In the subject maths, we have been learning about negative numbers. In PE we have started a subject: dodgeball. We have been learning how to use the programming app Scratch to build up to making a game in computing.

By Frederick and Selena

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

PTA News

PTA meeting - Tuesday 14 January 6 - 7.30pm

Please see the attached poster with details on the next PTA meeting.

Community news

Discounted tickets to watch Cambridge United

Please see the attached flyer with details on how to get heavily discounted tickets on certain Cambridge United games.

Open football training session with Norwich City RDP

Have a look at the attached leaflet to get more information on a free open training session for boys in Year 3 and Year 5.