

Newnham Croft Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr E Ferguson



Friday, 02 September 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to the start of your child(ren)'s year in Year 5 at Newnham Croft. We're looking forward to a busy and exciting term. The class will be taught by Mrs Turner from Monday to Thursday, with the exception of Wednesday afternoon (which will be taught by Mrs Palmer) and Thursday afternoon's Music and PE will be taught by specialists. Mr Orton will be teaching on Fridays.

We have a slight change to the times of the school day. Children will need to be in the playground, ready to come into class, at 8.45am, and will finish their day at 3.15pm. If you need to talk to us briefly, we will be on the playground just before the start of the day, or you can always knock on the classroom door if you have a quick query. Alternatively, you can make an appointment through the office for a longer meeting. We are aiming for the children to be independent, so whenever possible, please do encourage your child to come and talk to us themselves if they have any queries or worries.

In terms of topics, this term sees us starting off with a three week overview on World War I, to help give a context for the rest of the term's theme of World War II. Within this topic we'll be looking at the events that led up to the world wars, and how life in the UK was changed by this. This topic starts by focusing on the people who fought for our freedom in this way, including visits to Bletchley Park to learn about the codebreakers. Creatively, the children will also learn about dances through the decades and art linked to the wars. In Science the learning is focused around the life cycles of both mammals, humans and flowering plants. This topic is a continuation of the previous topic with the science shifting to build from the previous work on life cycles into a greater understanding of inheritance and evolution. In Computing work we'll look at how modern technology communicates data in different ways and how to create multimedia pages reflecting their learning in the term. English will mostly link to the topic this term and Maths will be taught discretely.

Parent consultations for Year 5 this term will be on the week beginning 17th October. As of yet, we are unsure about whether it will be in person or over Zoom. We will be sending out a quick questionnaire to see your preferences, so please do respond and we'll let you know sign-up options as soon as we know.

As mentioned, we have a visit planned to Bletchley Park to fit in with our topic of WWI and WWII. This will be on Monday 7th November. We will send out more details nearer the time. We will also be taking part in our usual Forest School sessions starting after half term, although the dates have yet to be finalised.

We will be having a short information meeting, for those wishing to attend, on Wednesday 7th September at 9:00am. This will be to discuss the information in this letter and talk about the year ahead; it will also be a chance for you to be able to put faces to the names of the adults working with your children this year.

In class, the children will be supported by Selina D'Oyly (who will also teach Art), Mrs Banerjee and Mrs Carrington (formally, Miss Jermyn) as well as Mr Friday (who will be teaching our Thursday afternoon PE session), and Katerina Onatskaia, who will be teaching music.

The children will have two PE lessons a week – Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon. Your child will be expected to be wearing appropriate active wear, or have the correct kit in school at all times, and to take part in every lesson; if he or she is unable to do this for some reason please speak to us before school or write a short note to inform us of any issues. Children with long hair must also bring in something to tie it back with and no jewellery is allowed in school without written permission.

Home learning should follow the themes and guidance outlined in the policy (see the school website). We will be sending home weekly SPaG tasks, which will be given out on Friday, and will need to be back in by Tuesday. The children have a choice of challenge and there are lots of online activities that you can encourage your child to do if they wish to. It is also very useful if children read for at least fifteen minutes a day at home.

Finally, if any of the areas of study this term are your areas of expertise, please get in touch; it would be great to use some of the knowledge residing in the parent body to enrich the children's learning. Previously, we have had parents delivering workshops, assemblies and presentations, so please do get in touch if this is something you would like to do,

Kind regards,

Jo Turner and Dave Orton