



Newnham News

Friday 22 March 2024

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

[NET donation link](#)

Dear parents/carers,

On Wednesday, after a lot of pre-trip admin and organising, the Year 6s got away smoothly and punctually on their three night residential in Norfolk.

As always, this leaves the school slightly becalmed, the loss of the big personalities of our oldest children very noticeable. Reports from the coast have been positive, with children (and adults) enjoying the activities and challenges.

Apart from the usual orderly mayhem in school, this week's other standout event was the Year 3/4 production, *The Wind in the Willows*. Each time I watched it, there was something new to appreciate, some new tweak that a child had added to their character, and the singing was fantastic throughout. Upliftingly wonderful stuff!

Enjoy the rest of the newsletter - busy classes left, right and centre - and your weekends.

Kind regards
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

Y5 bikeability <i>bring your bike and helmet</i>	25 - 28 Mar
Eat lunch with your Year 1 child	25 Mar, 12pm
Eat lunch with your Year 1 child	27 Mar, 12pm
International Afternoon and PTA Food Stall	27 Mar, 3.15 - 4.15pm
Music Festival	27 Mar, 6.30pm
Last day of term	28 Mar
First day of summer term	16 April

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

Our language of the month is Polish. Please see the words we have learned in the attached file.

Music Festival 27th March

We are delighted to announce our Spring Music Festival, which will take place at 6.30pm 27th March in the school hall. Featuring the Newnham Croft Orchestra, any child that is learning an instrument in school or privately is welcome to play to our friendly audience. To sign up or for more details,

follow this link:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Z1JFujPwwFywFYAEI4JyAyCbNoKtgQ2AhVh_3dBGtjM/edit?usp=sharing

Online workshop

Please see below a link to a useful workshop for parents regarding online safety for children. The NSPCC Youtube channel has a variety of valuable information and is certainly worth a look.

[NSPCC Kids Safety Net Online Workshops for Parents and Carers](#)

Classroom news

Reception

On Thursday, Reception walked to the Central Library in Cambridge. Although we have had many visitors come to the school to share experiences with us, this was the first time that the class went out of school for an educational visit. Walking there was easy.

Walking back, less so! However, thanks to our parent volunteers who accompanied our class, the trip was a success. At the library, we met two librarians who shared the wonders of borrowing books for a library; the choice is amazing. The children were then able to select a book to take home and share with their families.



KS1

Key Stage 1 has had a busy week with this term's topic 'Fire Fire,' exploring more of our book *Vlad and The Great Fire of London* and looking at Samuel Pepys' diary. In maths, Year 1 has been finding the difference by comparing towers of cubes and working out how much taller or shorter each tower is when compared to one another. Year 2 has been creating arrays to solve multiplication and division number sentences. In English, each class has been memorising and adding actions to the story of *Vlad and The Great Fire of London*. The classes then went on to create story maps, retelling the story and then described the character of Vlad using a range of ambitious vocabulary. In history, all children wrote a diary entry from the perspective of Samuel Pepys. In science, all children looked at the parts of a plant. Year 1

labelled each part and then described the roles of the stem, leaf, petal and roots, while year 2 described the life journey of a sunflower plant from a seed to a fully grown plant. Lastly in PE, all children finalised their plant dances by adding in unison and canon to their group dance routines. Well done for an excellent half term Key Stage 1!

For children expecting their Big Cat home reading books, these have been allocated to them and for everyone else, all E - books have been added to the Big Cat Portal. For anyone who changes their home reading book on a Friday, could these books please be brought back next Thursday as we shall not be in next Friday.

Year 3

What a week Year 3 has had! Many congratulations to all of them for giving such wonderful performances in their production of Wind In The Willows. They all looked and sounded amazing. During the week, the children also did their end of term assessments in reading and maths. In our English sessions, the children learnt how to show how a character was feeling. In our maths sessions, the children presented data using bar charts and pictograms and learnt how to subtract using the column method. In our science lessons the children enjoyed learning about different plant hunters and thinking about what things plants need to help them survive. In our history sessions, the children learnt about the number systems that were developed by the Ancient Mayans.

Year 4

Well done year 4. Our production was a huge success. We have had such wonderful feedback from so many people. I am so proud of how hard everyone has worked and you should all be proud of yourselves. It was lovely seeing everyone enjoying themselves so much on the stage. In science we have been finding out about some explorers known as 'plant hunters' who travelled the world looking for new and rare specimens. We have also been thinking about a plant we might search for. In English we have been reading the next chapter of 'Wind In The Willows' and describing the setting of the wild wood. I had to make sure I didn't read them too late in the evening as they were too scary! In maths we have started looking at two place decimal numbers as well as multiplying and dividing decimals by 10 and 100. We have also been doing some end of term assessments. Please find attached spellings with word families.

Year 5

In maths, we continued to work out missing angles using our known facts and also drew polygons according to certain specifications (interior angles and length of sides). In English, we explored cohesion within paragraphs and then wrote news reports about hurricanes using cohesive paragraphs. We then performed these and discussed what makes a good news report, both in terms of the script and the performance. In science, we learned about evolution and Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection. We really enjoyed going to the chemistry talk on Monday and were

very impressed by all the amazing experiments that can be done with water. We also enjoyed our last swimming session of the term and our forest school morning.

Year 6

Year 6 has been on a residential trip to Hilltop in Norfolk.

School Meals

The three weekly menu rota is attached. Next week's menu will be Week 2. The cost of a school meal is £2.50.

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 Food Stall at International Afternoon

Help us to celebrate our culturally diverse school community by bringing a plate of food that represents your home, your country or your culture, to sell at International Afternoon on Wednesday 27 March. Drop your donations off at school in the morning or bring at 3.15pm. Please remember no nuts, no kiwi and no sesame.