



Newnham News

Friday 23 October 2020

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

Attachments

- Tea towel and bag order form
- Happy Halloween poster
- NET form
- Lunch menus
- Covid provisions for after half term (updated)

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Well, we've got through the first half term of what I'm sure will be another 'interesting' year. Hopefully you'll all have a lovely half term next week and we'll see if we can make it to Christmas in the same good shape. Thanks for all your messages of support and encouragement over the past weeks, they've been very much appreciated. Hopefully you received my letter during the week explaining the new measures that will be used by the school if Cambridge moves through the Covid transmission tiers. I'm afraid there was one point which was inaccurate and needs amendment on that document (amended document is attached). The request that pupils do not bring in any school bags after the half term was misleading. Our request is that children do not bring in bags which are larger than they need. Too many large bags are filling up the classroom spaces unnecessarily and cause issues for teachers, due to us not using cloakrooms at present. Please feel free to send your children in with smaller bags for lunchboxes etc, and small ruck sacks will be fine for those cycling. We would simply like to avoid the unnecessarily large ruck sacks currently coming in with little in them, so your help in limiting the bag size to just what is required for that day would be very helpful. There will be times (Forest School etc) where larger bags might be required, and we will understand when that is the case.

Can I also remind parents who may be travelling abroad during the half term period to check the list of countries for whether a two week quarantine period is required. If children also travel abroad they will also need to quarantine for 14 days if it is to those specified countries. If it is only the parents who travel abroad then the children are fine to come into school without any need to quarantine.

As cases continue to rise in schools (Primary and Nursery infections are about the same as in Secondary schools across the country), the chances of us needing to start providing remote education again increases. It is important for us to know which families will struggle in providing the technology to support remote education. This might be due to family machines being shared or being needed for parental use for work. If you would find technology provision difficult could you please email me head@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk during the half term break so that we can see how we might support you in the event of any bubble closure.

Can I finally remind everyone about the request to keep safe over the Halloween period. I attach a poster produced in conjunction with the Newnham South Resident's Association

suggesting an appropriate way to celebrate the event this year.

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor, starting after half term. We require someone to work 3 to 5 days, 11.30-1.30pm. The rate of pay is £9.43 per hour, permanent, term-time only.

Pupil Photographs

Children are coming home today with a photo proof from Pret-a-Portrait. The photos are also available to view on their website. Orders placed before 16 November will receive a 25% discount and free delivery.

Telephone: 0800 021 7626 Live Chat: www.Pret-a-Portrait.net
Email: customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net

News from Classes:

Reception

This week we have had a big focus on what numbers are used for. We looked at spotty dice and matched the dots on the dice with the corresponding number of fingers. We then looked at numbered dice and did the same. We thought about why we use numerals instead of dots, especially when the numbers are higher. Door numbers with dots would not be a good idea! Imagine if you lived at number 72. It would take the post man/woman for ever to work out if the letter was for your house if they had to count all 72 dots. Numbers and numerals are really, really useful! We also had lots of fun playing dominoes as it's great to match the patterns of dots on each tile. Perhaps you could play dominoes over the half term break.

Reception/Year 1

It has been a very busy week in Rec/1 in the run up to half term. In Maths we have all been looking at addition and subtraction. The Reception children have been looking at number bonds to 5 and 6 using double sided coloured coins to create their own number sentences. This can be recreated at home in half term by painting some stones or beans, one colour on each side, and rolling them to create a number sentence. Year 1 have been adding and subtracting one and two from a number. In phonics, Year 1 have been learning alternative letter sounds for 'i' (tin/time) and 'o' (cold/both/Monday/To). Finally, in Art this week the Reception children have worked on still life and completed some excellent drawings of pumpkins and autumn leaves.

Year 1 were introduced to pointillism and the work of Georges Seurat. They applied this to their previous work on portraits to produce fantastic, colourful self-portraits. Thank you to all who were able to attend parent consultation meetings which were relatively glitch-free, thankfully. From all staff in Rec/Y1, have a wonderful half term!

Year 1

This week in Year 1, the class have been learning to tell the time. We have been looking at o'clock and half past times. To reinforce this work, please encourage your child to read the time at home during half term and to make it more meaningful to their everyday life, look at the clock at bedtime, lunchtime, etc. In phonics, Year 1 have learnt about split digraphs a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e and u-e. Can your child spot these in their reading books at home? We have also been in the computer suite this week drawing pictures of Amy Johnson in her aeroplane, which she named 'Jason'. The children wrote amazing letters home from Amy Johnson about how she felt when she landed in Australia. The children will be coming home with a picture of our Phase 5 wall display, to support their home learning. Wishing you all a great half term.

Year 2

This week the children in Year 2 have continued to enjoy their pirate topic and looking at the changing season. In English the children started the week by recapping what adjectives and nouns were and then developed their understanding of what verbs are and how they change depending on whether they are written in the past, present or future tenses. The children ended the week by writing some beautiful descriptions of autumn that included the words that we had focused on during the week. Spellings/handwriting - the class continued to work on spelling exception words. In addition to this we looked at the rule that applies to doubling the consonant before adding -ing to words like stopping, shopping, robbing, sitting. In Maths the children started the week recapping o'clock and half past times and then moved onto quarter past and quarter to times. They also considered what they might be doing at various times of the day and night and linked these to AM and PM times. Design Technology - the children started to work in teams on constructing their pirate ships. They started to be more confident in using the various tools in the classroom under the watchful eye of Captain Matthews. Reading - the class have enjoyed reading pirate books (both fiction and non-fiction) and discussing the events that have taken place in Pirate Grace (our class reading book). Captain Goller is off to find a treasure island over half term and looks forward to seeing you all on his return. Thanks for all your help and assistance over the half term.

Year 3

This week Year 3 have been learning more about the first Roman invasion of Britain, and have applied their understanding of this across English and Topic. In History, Year 3 learnt about how Julius Caesar tried to invade Britain twice, in 55BC and 54BC, but failed both times. A parent who

is a Historian kindly delivered another Zoom talk to Years 3 and 4 about the significance of the Roman invasions. In English, Year 3 have been exploring homophones and near-homophones. They also created non-chronological reports on Julius Caesar and the Roman invasions. We practised using the features of non-chronological reporting: introduction, sub-heading and information text. In Maths, the class have been exploring partitioning as a method for adding and subtracting 2- and 3-digit numbers and for working out the totals of amounts. Year 3 have also been exploring measuring and drawing lines and shapes using cm measure, and we went on to work out the perimeter of various 2D shapes. In Science, the class explored how soil is formed through different processes. In Art, we have started to create patterns found on Roman shields. It has been a very positive week as we head into half term.

Year 4

This week in English, Year 4 have been reading, following, evaluating and writing instructions and have produced some amazing oil pastel resist paintings in the process. In Maths, we've practised column subtraction with 4-digit numbers where one or more than one exchange was needed. In Topic, we've learned about Boudicca, the Celtic queen, discovered what the Celts ate and drank and designed and created some eye-catching Celtic shields using collage and oil pastels (see photos). We enjoyed a Zoom talk about the Romans by a Year 3 parent and our spooky Forest School session with Mrs Bicknall.



Year 5

At the start of this week, Year 5 were using column multiplication to solve problems and investigate number. We also wrote a piece of narrative in the style of Goodnight Mr Tom, focusing on how the author selects verbs and adjectives to create personality. Later on in the week, Year 5 started looking at fractions in Maths, comparing which were bigger or smaller and simplifying fractions. Some of the class used fraction walls and pictures to support learning, while others confidently applied their knowledge of times tables. In English we finished our work on the 'Piano' film by planning and writing our own story which included flashbacks. The children have enjoyed using various shading techniques in Art and finished their WWII inspired drawings. Today we finished reading our class book, Goodnight Mr Tom. The children were really engaged with the story and moved by the developing relationship between Tom and Willie. There is a film of the story which some children were keen to watch, but we decided it would be more suited to home viewing rather than at school as some scenes can be quite distressing. The website, Common Sense Media, includes reviews from adults and children if you'd find it useful before deciding to watch with your child.

<https://www.common sense media.org/book-reviews/good-night-mr-tom>

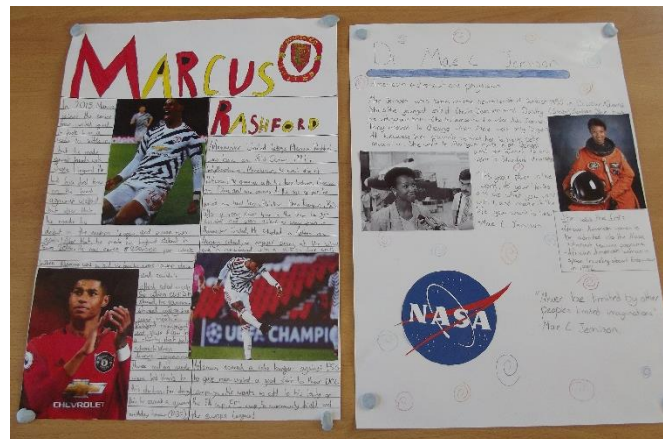
Our topic of WWII continues after half term. Although we're unable to visit the Imperial War Museum in Duxford as a class, they are open for family groups and have some special activities on over half term should you wish to visit. Booking is required.

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-duxford/families-at-iwm-duxford>

We have been really impressed with the learning in Year 5 this term and hope they all have an enjoyable and restful half term break.

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been continuing our World War II project by making medals for the brave 'few' who fought and worked in ground crews during the Battle of Britain. We have also been singing 1940s songs in music - ask us for a performance of 'Hey Mr Miller'. In English, we have been writing historical stories set in the war. We have also been practising our life drawing skills in art while learning about the Dig for Victory campaign. In Maths, we have been finding the area of 2D shapes (rectangles, triangles and parallelograms) and finding the volume of 3D shapes. In Science, we have been experimenting with prisms and learning about how we see colour. As part of our Black History Month learning, we have also created bioposters (a mini biography in poster form) for black and minority heroes and role-models. We have displayed these in our windows, facing out, so other classes can come and read our posters and be inspired.



School Meals

The school lunch menu for after half term are attached. The cost of a school meal is £2.40 per day.

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 website: <http://www.newnhamcroftpta.btck.co.uk/>

Yours faithfully, Andy Matthews, Headteacher

School diary dates coming up soon

Flu vaccination 13 Nov

PTA update

Last minute tea towel and bag orders

If you missed getting your order form in to school for the self-portrait tea towels and bags, fear not! There is still time to order these wonderful, 100% cotton items. Every child has a really fun hand-drawn portrait on each item, and with different pictures featured both the tea towel and the bags, and all the staff represented, why not order one (more more!) of each? Online orders will be accepted until **Wednesday 28th October**. To order, please fill in the attached order form and email it to dani@meeprophone.com. Payment should be made by BACS to the following account: Bank account name: Newnham Croft School PTA, Sort code: 30-91-56 Account number: 01931376 (please enter their surname and TEA as the reference)

Greetings Cards

Thanks for ordering Greetings Cards! We have yet to receive our total fundraising amount, but we had lots of orders. Thanks for supporting this project! Items will be delivered to school by 20th November.

Classlist

Join us on Classlist and stay informed about what's going on in the school community:

<https://classlist.page.link/fNHrsPAEqQEwpbqJA>

It's a secure messaging service for use only by parents of school, where we send out PTA updates and parents can start discussions within their class groups.

Class Reps

The following classes still need reps:

- Year 4
- Reception

Year 6 and Year 1 could do with an extra person.

If you're able to offer a little bit of time (only about 2 hours over a whole term!), please do volunteer for this sociable and friendly role.

Year 5 interactive screen - we have £2000 match funding!!

Thank you to all those parents who have generously given towards the Year 5 interactive screen. We'll also be putting the money we raise from tea towels and greetings cards into the match funding pot. For every £1 of fundraising or donation we receive now, another £1 will be added by our generous donor!

If you are able to help with funding this project, please use the NET form attached to this newsletter or speak to the school office. The new screen will make a huge difference to the learning opportunities in Year 5 (and for all the classes who use this room over the coming years!!).

Easyfundraising

If you're buying something online - gifts, a holiday, clothes, an appliance - see if the retailer is signed up with Easyfundraising. At no extra cost to you, the school receives a donation from the retailer from your purchase! If you're starting to think about Christmas, sign up and make your shopping give back to school. Go here to see which retailers take part and sign up:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/newnhamcroftpta/?invite=OGP3O1&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_source=refmailshare

Community

Saturday Football returns to Newnham Croft Primary School from 7 November for children in Reception and Years 1 and 2. Smaller classes in single year groups this year and at slightly earlier time of between 11am and 1pm. Same coaches though (Over and In); same parents organising it and definitely same amount of fun! If you're potentially interested, please email newnhamssportsfootball@gmail.com by 29th October.

Cocks and Hens Tennis Club

Grantchester Road, Cambridge, CB3 9ED

Junior Tennis Coaching continuing after half term spaces still available! Monday 2 November to Sunday 13 December 2020. Come and have some fun, improve your game and learn some new skills!

More details on our website: www.cocksandhens.co.uk under the coaching tab or for more information contact Justin Layne on cockshenscoaching@gmail.com