



# Newnham News

Friday 13 September 2019

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

## Attachments

- Football club form
- Tech holiday club

### Dear Parents, Carers and Children

It has been a wonderful first full week back at school for all of us. The new reception children have been settling in to school life really well and it's been fantastic to see their enthusiasm and confidence this week. I'm sure they are ready for spending longer in school next week.

You might have noticed the new Eco Mural that has been hung just outside the entrance doors from the playground. It certainly adds colour and vibrancy to that area and imparts a great message for us all.

On a personal note, can I say a big thank you to all those parents who have come to me for a chat and helped me feel quickly at home here; it has been great to start to get to know you all.

### Reminders:

A Forest School workshop for new parents or any parent wishing to know more about Forest School will be on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October** from 9-11am. Please sign up for this in the Reception classroom so we know how many people to expect.

On **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** at 6pm (repeated on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** at 9.15am) there will be a parent/carers workshop on the Early Years curriculum, focussing on how reading/phonics and maths will be taught.

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October** will be our **International open evening**, staff are considering the theme for this year and we will let you know what that will be next week.

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October** will be our **Harvest festival**. It will start at 9.30 in the school hall. Parents are welcome to attend if you wish to.

### The End of the School Day

Reception and Key Stage 1 children finish school at 3.10 pm, and Key Stage 2 at 3.15 pm. All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 must be accompanied home by an adult. Please be aware that it is assumed that children in Years 5 and 6 are allowed to go home unaccompanied, but not Years 3 and 4 unless we have been notified by parents. Parents can collect their children from the playground, and a teacher is on duty at the gate until a bell is rung to vacate the playground, after which the gate is locked. Please leave promptly to allow staff to continue with their duties after school.

### Head's Twitter Account

Thank you to those 'early adopters' of the school's twitter feed. I'd like to encourage as many of you as possible to join, so that I can share events from school easily and directly. For example, pictures from Year 3 & 4's trips to the Fitzwilliam museum were shared during their trip this week.

If you use Twitter please follow me ([Head@NewnhamCroft](https://twitter.com/Head@NewnhamCroft)), this will be a closed group for parents/carers only, I will accept all requests to join from school parents/carers and staff. Please note that I will never tweet any photographs of your children's faces without express permission.

### Jeans for Genes Day

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September we are going to join thousands of pupils and teachers from across the country, who will be wearing their jeans (or as much denim as they can) to school in exchange for a small donation (we suggest £1) to make a difference to the half a million children in the UK who live with the daily challenges of a genetic disorder. Together we can help fund projects that provide nursing care, equipment, activity weekends, support and counselling. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

### Donation Request for the Reception Classes

The Early Years classes would be very pleased to receive donations to top up some of their classroom resources. Suggestions are as follows:

- Reception age level board games (with all the pieces!)
- Puzzles (with all pieces!)
- Toy baby dolls, clothes and accessories
- Home area – plastic utensils, pots, pans, etc
- Construction sets

With thanks in advance!

### School Meals

The cost of a school meal is £2.40, minimum payment of £12 in advance. The school's preferred method of payment is online at [www.simsagora.co.uk](http://www.simsagora.co.uk)

Meals per week	1 <sup>st</sup> half term	2 <sup>nd</sup> half term
5 meals	£79.20	£93.60
Whole term	4 Sep – 19 Dec	£172.80

### Year 3 and 4 at the Fitzwilliam Museum

On Tuesday and Thursday this week, Year 3 and 4 took a trip down to The Fitzwilliam Museum, to explore the wonderful ancient Egyptian exhibits housed there. The children had a wonderful time exploring the artefacts and took back some fabulous real-life experience from which to base their learning around. A big thank you to those parents who spared time to assist the classes walk down to the museum safely.



### Volunteers to help with Orienteering & Y6 Swimming

We are still looking for volunteers to assist us in our orienteering day on the 17<sup>th</sup> September. This event will be for Year 5 and 6 in the morning and Year 3 and 4 in the afternoon. If you are able to help with this event please contact the school office.

We also still require some parental helpers for the journey for the Year 6s when they go swimming. These sessions will start on the 16<sup>th</sup> September. If this concerns your child, please ensure that they come to school on that day with swimming costume, goggles, and a towel.

We are also in need of a few additional volunteers to assist us in supervising lunchtimes. If you can spare an hour in the middle of the day to help us with this, then again please contact the school office.

### Italian Club

An Italian KS2 lunch club is starting next Monday from 12.30-1.15pm with the Italian teacher Maria Carmen Triola. Cost per term £60. Further enquiries to Maria at [marika.triola@gmail.com](mailto:marika.triola@gmail.com).

### PTA news

Firstly, a huge HELLO to all the new parents from the PTA Committee, as well as a big WELCOME BACK to families who were in the school last year.

As always, the PTA Committee are happy to offer any help or advice we can, so please do just come and chat to us at pick up or drop off. The updated Committee list (with photos so you can recognise us!) will be going up on our lovely notice board soon. If anyone has any ideas for new events or activities you'd like to see, we are really open to hearing these.

Some important announcements:

- **class reps:** each class needs 2 people who will help run the treat stall, organise presents for teachers at Christmas and end of the school year, and be a PTA point of contact for your class. This role takes up about 15 mins a week in your treat stall week (once a half term), with around 10 mins per day in the lead

up to Christmas and end of the summer term. Get in touch via the School Office or on Classlist to volunteer.

- **parent social (24th Sept):** our first parent social will be in Lammas Land (subject to weather...) straight after school on 24th Sept. Put it in your diary!
- **full list of events this term:** the list of PTA events for this term are below. We have two of our biggest events and fundraisers this term - the Bonfire Night (which is always spectacular and sells out quickly!) and the Twilight Market (soaking up the wintery spirit with toasted marshmallows, hot chocolate and mulled wine!).

### PTA Events Autumn Term

#### September

Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>	Social for parents, after school, Lammas Land
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup>	PTA meeting. 8pm. School staff room. All parents welcome

#### October

Tues 8 <sup>th</sup>	International Evening – PTA food stall
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#### November

Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bonfire night, school field
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	Social for parents, local pub (tbc), 8pm
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Disco, School Hall

#### December

Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	Twilight Market
Fri/Sat/Sun 6/7/8 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas tree sale, order in advance collect from school

### Other Diary Dates

#### Diary Dates for September

All Rec children stay for lunch on their own .....	16-20 Sep
All Rec children stay full time.....w/b	23 Sep
Y6 start swimming .....	16 Sep
KS2 Orienteering day .....	17 Sep
Jeans for Genes Day .....	20 Sep

### Careers Assemblies

The school would like to continue with the programme of careers assemblies we introduced last year and would be grateful to hear from parents volunteering to contribute. The usual format is that three parents each speak for 5 minutes (often with PowerPoint slides or even some video or props, but not necessarily) and also receive questions from the children for about 5 minutes. We are keen to showcase as wide a range of careers as possible, with both mums and dads contributing. The assemblies have generally taken place 9-9.30am on a Friday, but we can be flexible about accommodating your availability. If you are interested in

contributing to an assembly please email Kirsty McDougall (Parent Governor), [kmcdougall@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:kmcdougall@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk)

(If you volunteered last year and haven't yet been called upon, Kirsty still has your name on the list.)

## Community News

### New Saturday football Club

A group of Newnham parents invite girls and boys to football training on Saturday afternoons starting 21st September. Open to all children in reception to year 6 (no experience necessary!), with sessions for different age groups running between 1pm and 3.30pm taking place at Newnham Croft Primary School. The sessions will be led by an external coach provided by 'Over and In' and have a focus on having fun and developing skills. We would welcome any offers of support in the administration of this community venture as well as help with the coaching at the weekly training.

Please feel free to speak with us if you have any questions (Beth Child, Ece Kizil, Henning Grunwald, John Stead, Simon Walker, Tom Smith) and see attached form to register your child for the sessions.

**5-day Technology Club on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019 – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at St Faith's School, CB2 8AG from 9am to 3pm each day.**

Our technology camps are your child's ticket to another world, with lots of exciting activities for curious coders, inventors and artists. Kids can learn how to program *artificial intelligence robots*, *modify madness with Minecraft* and even create their own *digital app*! The camps are designed to help children acquire in-demand skills from a young age, which will be needed for their future jobs market. Simply put, it is the perfect place for them to push their coding skills even further and provides an unforgettable learning experience.

Book early using the discount code EARLYBIRD to receive 10% your booking. Please Note this offer is only available until 27<sup>th</sup> September.

For a full list of activities and more information **please see flyer attached. Spaces are limited** and work on a **first come first serve** basis. To check availability or to enrol simply visit: <https://nextthing.education/product/st-faiths-school-summer-camp>

### Interested in finding out more about fostering?

Our Local Authority fostering service are running information events about becoming a foster carer and what they can expect.

If you are looking to change direction or want to do something you feel passionate about, then why not join us. You will need a spare bedroom and need to be over 21.

- 19<sup>th</sup> September from 5pm – 7pm at Milton Rd Library, Cambridge (CB4 2BD)

- 25<sup>th</sup> September from 5pm – 7pm at March Library on City Rd (PE15 9LT)
- 26<sup>th</sup> September from 5pm – 7pm at Huntingdon Library on Princes St (PE29 3PA)

If you would like to register your interest then email [fostering@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or call **0800 052 0078**

### Open Cambridge

The dates for the Open Cambridge festival will be **Friday 13 - Saturday 14 September 2019**  
[Click here to view the 2019 programme](#)

### Cambridge Food, Garden and Produce Show

Saturday 21- Sunday 22 September 2019 at Parker's Piece

### Cambridge Film Festival

This great annual event runs from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> October, with a great range of movies available for children as well as adults. <https://www.cambridgefilmfestival.org.uk/>

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](http://www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk)

PTA website: <http://www.newnhamcrofptta.btck.co.uk/>

Yours faithfully

Andy Matthews, Headteacher