



Newnham News

Friday 19 March 2021

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

Attachments

- The Oxford and Cambridge Singing School Easter Course

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a really lovely week in school, with the children continuing to be amazing and resuming their learning like ducks to water.

Thank you everyone for supporting the Comic Relief Superheroes theme today and donating money to such a great cause. It's been so nice to have something as simple as a dress up day for the children (obviously staff enjoyed the chance to raid their dressing up boxes as well!).

You'll be pleased to know that I've not got a host of Covid updates for you, but I do have one. If you are in receipt of Free School Meals then the voucher system will be reintroduced for over the Easter holidays.

We are also currently putting together the clubs list for the summer term, and I'll share this with you during next week so you can book your places. It will be fantastic to start to get that element of normal school life back up and running.

Classroom Round-up

Reception

We have been looking at the coins again this week. We dug out coins buried in sand and looked at their values. We also found different ways of paying for objects priced between 1p and 6p using a range of coins. In phonics we have been reviewing our knowledge of all Phase 2 and 3 phonemes.

Reception/Year 1

This week in R/1 we have adapted the story of 'The 3 Little Pigs'. We have been writing new, creative endings as well as replacing the characters in the story with our own. In Maths we have learnt about capacity with a hands-on approach and introduced key words such as full, empty, less than, least and greater than. Reception have now learnt all phase 3 phonemes and a full picture of our phonics wall will be uploaded to Tapestry to support you at home. I encourage you all where possible to use Google Earth as we have been using it at school to explore UK geography and identify the countries of the United Kingdom. Have a great weekend!

Year 1

In Maths this week, Year 1 have been looking at capacity. Linking this unit with phonics we have been using the suffixes 'er' and 'est', for example fuller and fullest. In English, the

children have started to write their adapted version of The 3 Little Pigs story, by changing the characters and choosing alternative endings. In Science lessons the class have been looking at the properties of various materials and why things are made out of different materials. Year 1 have also made the most of the computer room where they have been working on improving mouse skills by drawing in the 2Simple programme and consolidating some number skills with maths games. Finally, thank you to Ms Shafer for being our mystery reader this week.

Year 2

Year 2 have had another busy and productive week back at school. They have continued to enjoy listening to Fantastic Mr Fox. In English lessons the children have created 'Wanted Posters' to bring about Mr Fox's speedy capture. They have thought about different types of adjectives to use in their descriptions and enjoyed coming up with suitable rewards. In grammar lessons the children have recapped their knowledge of statement, command and question sentences and started to write their own versions that relate to foxes. In Maths the children used arrays to solve simple division problems and worked on questions that related to their knowledge of the 2s, 5s and 10 times tables. In PE the children enjoyed working on dance movements that portrayed the '3 farmers' in fantastic Mr Fox. In Science we have started to look at simple food chains and the transfer of energy from producers to consumers.

Year 3

This week, Year 3 have continued to build on their learning of the Maya. We examined how disease, drought and hunger brought an end to their civilisation. Year 3 learnt about the two explorers who discovered them and wrote a famous book about them. Next Tuesday, we shall have a mini-Mayan Day by creating some Mayan art and crafts and having a zoom session with an expert who specialises in Mayan history from the Anthropology Department at the University of Cambridge. In English, Year 3 have been looking at The BFG by Roald Dahl and they completed some descriptive writing using open noun phrases to describe the beginning of the story. In Maths, the class have been recapping number by exploring their 2-, 4-, 5- and 8-times tables; multiples of ten; scaling and the grid method to solve multiplication of 2- and 3-digit numbers. We also explored our teeth and learnt about the names and roles of each tooth. We were also fortunate to examine a real tooth. Well done for a very hard-working week Year 3!

Year 4

In Maths, we have been learning about decimals and that tenths arise from dividing an object into 10 equal parts and in dividing one-digit numbers by 10. We also revised division and column addition. We continued reading the BFG and learned some new ambitious vocabulary (including eerie, sleepless and silvery) to describe settings and characters. We also recapped the structure of sentences to help us with punctuation in our own writing and analysed the first scene in the story. We enjoyed learning about the digestive functions by making a 'lift the flap' model of the body in Science. In Topic, we learned where in the world the ancient Maya people lived and practised our map reading skills using atlases. In Art, we finished our wax resist reflections paintings. In PSHE, we discussed our feelings about being in lockdown and returning to school after lockdown and how having a daily plan can help us to get back into a regular routine on school days. We have been practising our listening skills while getting used to and enjoying being back in the class community. Our motto for the week was Be Ready.

Year 5

In Science, this week, we have been developing our understanding of electrical circuits. In English, we've continued to work on our class text, Kensuke's Kingdom, using evidence from the text to find out more about characters and make predictions. In Maths we have worked on furthering our understanding of fractions, finding fractions of amounts and converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers. In PE, we have continued to improve our fitness in Boot Camp, while next week we'll be filming the groups of children who wish to enter the gymnastics competition so have been busy practising our group routines today.

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have continued reading War Horse in English. We have written a report about life in the WWI trenches and a chapter in Michael Morpurgo's style based on our predications. In Maths, we have been practising division, finding patterns and completing sequences, and learning how to scale quantities using ratio and proportion. In Computing, we have been planning our films for the 4th Newnham Film Festival (hopefully, you have received the save the date email about this from Laura, Julia, Abby and Eden). In PE, we have been trying to learn the off-side rule in tag rugby and practising passing in hockey. As you hopefully know, Year 6 have all started working for MI5. The first parts of our training, this week, involved: building electrical circuits blindfolded, fixing and adapting circuits, building circuits to send messages in Morse Code and solving clues to find the whereabouts of an evil villain.

School Meals

The school lunch menu next week is week 3 of the 3 week cycle. 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

PTA News

Your PTA would love to hear from you! We have created an anonymous survey to get your thoughts and feedback so that we can plan events and activities that suit you best.

You can access the survey by following this link:

[Parent Survey](#)

If you have anything further you wish to discuss, don't hesitate to contact us by email at:

newnhamcroftpta@gmail.com or speak to Emma in the playground. The survey will remain open until we return back to school after the Easter break. Thank you!

Also, we have set a date for the next PTA meeting - it will be on Wednesday 21st April, 8pm and will be held on Zoom. We will be discussing funding requests from the school and also the responses to this survey. As ever, all are welcome and encouraged to join.

Community News

Newnham Scouts have spaces available for new joiners: if you have children aged 5.75-8 who might be interested in joining Beavers, or 10-14 and interested in Scouts please get in touch at membership@newnhamscouts.org.uk <http://newnhamscouts.org.uk/sections/scouts/>

Newnham Football It's been a long time coming but football, we very much hope, will be returning to Newnham Croft on Saturdays next term between 11am and 1.30pm for Reception, Y1 and Y2 children. Parent organised, professionally coached and lots of outdoor fun for girls and boys alike. If you might be interested, or have any questions, please email newnhamssportsfootball@gmail.com or speak to Ece Kizil (mum of Theo Y4 and Alex Y1) or Beth Child (mum of Osmund Y6, Monty Y4 and Solomon Y1) by Sat 27 March. If you have kids in older years who might also want to play (no prior experience needed) then do let us know too so we can gauge if extra sessions might be needed. Thank you!

Oxford and Cambridge Singing School Easter Course

Please see the attached leaflet for details.

Tech Easter Holiday Camp

For boys and girls ages 5-12 £194 per week, 9am-4pm daily. www.nextthing.education email: info@nextthing.education 01442 873150.