



# Newnham News

Friday 12 May 2023

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Dear parents/carers,

Is it my imagination, or does a four-day week just mean that you have to fit five days' worth of work into less time?

The Year 6s have had their SATs this week, which always adds a frisson of excitement and tension to the week. Ms Holliday and the team have been fantastic at supporting and ensuring the children have had as positive experience as possible. With Ms Noble, Mrs Harper and Mrs Bicheno providing the perfect start to their day with a series of delicious breakfasts, it has, hopefully, been an enjoyable week for the children.

Although testing children of primary age is often seen as contentious, I have always found SATs week gives a lot more than it takes. Learning how to deal with pressure, motivating oneself with a clear target and the sense of community that is found through shared adversity (plus pancakes, hash browns, croissants and teddy bears) are such important lessons to learn.

Meanwhile, Year 4 have been having a lovely time over at Grafham Water for their residential (they got back this afternoon). Well done Mrs Kivisild, Mrs Bole and the indefatigable Ms Burke for giving up a perfectly good night's sleep to support this.

One of the attachments to the newsletter is a poster giving information about a parenting course being offered by Cambridgeshire, which might be of interest. If there is a more stressful/complicated job than parenting, I have yet to come across it!

And finally, I am very pleased to announce that Mrs Turner will be taking up the post of SENCo in September. It is such an important role and to have someone so dedicated and interested in that aspect of educational provision is fantastic.

Enjoy your weekends,  
Kind regards, Eddie Ferguson

## Classroom news:

### Reception

For our Maths learning this week, we have been doing a lot of 'noticing'. By this we mean that we have been looking at a group or quantity of objects and discussing what we noticed. For example, in the photo below, we first noticed that there were flowers. Then someone noticed they were daisies. Someone else noticed that there were two daisies together.

We noticed that at the top of the picture there were three daisies together and one next to it. So, we noticed that three daisies and one daisy made four daisies together. We did this without counting. Knowing the amount without the need to count is called **subitising**. Perhaps you can notice quantities without the need to count when you are out and about?



### Years 1 and 2

This week, Year 2s have enjoyed their third week swimming at Parkside Pool. They spent this session building on and becoming more confident with swimming on their backs and submerging themselves under the water whilst making their way across the pool on their front. In Maths, Year 1s have recapped strategies for adding and subtracting 11 and 12 and have been building on their understanding of Data Handling by exploring and creating pictograms and block graphs. Year 2s have been recapping time, by looking at intervals of 5 minutes on an analogue clock and using coins to work out lots of different amounts. In English, both year groups have been using library books and i-pads to research their chosen mini beasts, which some children have started writing up as part of their fact file or non-chronological report. In Geography, all classes created journey lines across a map of the world. They imagined that they were travelling from one part and made their way to another part. The children then wrote down the names of the continents and oceans they would go through. Lastly in Science, the children wrote about what had happened to each plant as part of their experiment; one had been put in the fridge; one had no soil; one had not been watered and the final pot contained a lettuce plant, which had water, sunlight and warm temperature. The children also continued to observe and water their cress and pea plants. Well done for a hard working week Key Stage One.

Please find attached 3 times tables and spellings taken from across the week for all Year 2s.

### Year 3

Year 3 have worked really hard throughout the week. In our Maths sessions, we focused on telling the time. The children learnt how to read digital times using am and pm times and to compare seconds, minutes and hours. In our English sessions, the children learnt about some of the features found in explanation texts. They enjoyed reading them and answering questions about them. In our computing session, the children used Microsoft Power Point to select templates

and to copy and paste text and images. In our History session, the children learnt about the Danegeld and debated what the advantages and disadvantages were. In Art, the children enjoyed making the dragons they had designed in the previous session.

#### Year 4

The class had a great time at Grafham Water, learning how to paddle board, amongst other exciting activities.



#### Year 5

This week Year 5 have been working hard on pulling together their script, songs and choreography for their production, which they are looking forward to sharing with everyone next week. In Maths they have been completing their work on Place Value, gaining confidence when using 6-digit numbers when placing on a number line, rounding and reading and writing Roman Numerals. In Science, they have planned an investigation to find out if the length of wire affects how components in a circuit work. They will be carrying out the investigation next week.

#### Year 6

On Tuesday this week, we had two tests and wonderful French toast for breakfast. We started off with a 45 minute long SPaG test and later on we had a spelling test. On Wednesday, we only had one test; it was reading which was one hour long, the longest test of all. Also, for breakfast we had pancakes, or there was toast, cereal, fruit and yogurt as usual. On Thursday we had an arithmetic paper 1 and reasoning paper 2. After the tests, in the afternoon, we had a glow-in-the-dark dodgeball session and after we carried on with our songs! Finally, on Friday we had a reasoning paper before break and afterwards we carried on with our non-linear book for English. We decided to celebrate the end of SATs by having a 'Eurovision' competition, with or without our teddies. *By Nelly and Jaen*

#### Sign up to play at the next music festival!

You are invited to join us next Friday 19th May from 3.30pm for our early Summer Music Festival. Any child learning a musical instrument is invited to play in front of our friendly and supportive audience. Full details and sign up here: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/112bPF5eHIATKxXPYWBI3ukAkEW56HdT\\_k-V8nCFqqd4/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/112bPF5eHIATKxXPYWBI3ukAkEW56HdT_k-V8nCFqqd4/edit?usp=sharing)

Please note that the School Orchestra will next feature at the end of term Music Festival on the 7th July.

#### School Meals

The three-weekly cycle of menus is attached; next week 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](http://www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk).

#### Diary Dates

Summer Music Festival 3.30pm.....	19 May
PTA AGM 7pm at school .....	24 May
Half term week .....	29 May - 2 June
Staff training day – school closed .....	5 June

#### COMMUNITY NEWS

##### Royal Institution Science Event

Join us here at Coleridge Community College, where we will be welcoming the Royal Institution to deliver a lively, fire-based demonstrations suitable for all the family, to allow us to take the intimidation out of the terminology around energy and show you just how simple this subject can be. This event will include fire, bangs and pops! You will leave not only knowing their elastic from their gravitational, but also fired up (pun intended) about energy and with a newly-enthused approach to science. Suitable for families with children in primary school as well as secondary. Please note that all primary pupils must attend with an adult. Link to book tickets: [Royal Institution@ Coleridge Community College: Energy Live! Show Tickets, Mon 19 Jun 2023 at 17:30 | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/royal-institution-energy-live-show-tickets-mon-19-jun-2023-at-17-30-tickets-61234567890)

**Cocks and Hens summer half term tennis camps** – see flyer attached

**AMS half term sports camps** – see flyer attached