



Newnham News

Wednesday 4th September 2019

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

I'd like to extend a warm welcome back to existing parents and to those parents who are new to the school. I hope that you've all enjoyed a peaceful and relaxing summer break, and that your children are refreshed and ready for the year ahead. I'm sure that you'll all be slightly unnerved about the change in headship at the school, so please find a moment to catch me on the gate or around the school for a quick chat, so I can attempt to settle your nerves. In the meantime, please be reassured that in all I do, I'll always keep at the forefront of my mind the knowledge that I (and the amazing staff team here) have in our care your most precious thing, and that we'll do all we can to help them love their schooling and achieve their full potential. I'm very much looking forward to my new role in the school and getting to know all of your children, who have been delightful, enthusiastic and supportive during my first day.

During the summer break there have been a few other changes to the school aside from my arrival. The Music Room has been completely renovated with the help of funding from the PTA, and now looks wonderful. The medical room has now moved to just inside the security doors from the entrance foyer, with Aleks' office moving to opposite the staffroom. As always, the summer holidays is a very busy time for Aleks, and he has done a great job in getting these projects completed in time for the new school year.

Meet your new teacher for the year

'Meet the teacher' (not for Reception parents) will be on **Friday 6th September 9-9.30 am for all other year groups**. This is a great chance to meet your child's teacher if you have not already done so and hear useful information about the year ahead. **On Thursday 5th you'll also receive a curriculum newsletter and a topic web** (these will also be available on the school website with class timetables).

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

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

We will be using English for our greetings during the first few weeks of term.

Hilltop 2019

The Hilltop residential trip for the Year 6s is fast approaching (14th – 16th October). If you would like your child to attend this incredible trip then please pay the deposit of £55 by the end of next week. Further payment details will be sent out soon.

Emergency contact details & medication

Please ensure you inform the office staff of any changes to your contact details. Please also ensure that any school medication for your child is in date.

Sending letters and money into school

Please remember to send these in with your child or drop them in the green letterbox by the front door.

Head's Twitter account

I have set up a school Twitter account for me to use to inform you all quickly and directly of messages from the school, to celebrate school achievements and to share pictures of life in the school or out and about on school trips. 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.

Mobile phones

Children in Year 5 and 6 who walk home on their own are allowed to bring in mobile phones which should be handed into their class teacher during the day. Phones should not be used in the playground before and after school and the school does not accept responsibility for phones that are lost, stolen or damaged whilst on school property.

Driving in Chedworth Street

For the safety of the children please avoid driving up Chedworth Street, especially during drop off and pick up times. Thank you.

PE kit and bags

Please ensure that your child has a named PE kit in school at all times. This should include a T shirt, shorts or joggers and trainers (not walking boots). Please also ensure that your child has an appropriate bag for their day at school. In Reception and KSI this should ideally be a book bag.

Jewellery

Please remind your children that jewellery (with the exception of watches) are not permitted in school for Health and Safety reasons.

Healthy eating and school dinners

Our school menus are being reviewed at the start of the new school year. Please remember that Reception and Key Stage 1 are provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable at break time and KS2 should bring in a healthy snack. No sweets, crisps or fizzy drinks are allowed in school.

Extra-curricular clubs

The majority of clubs will commence the week beginning 9th September. For further confirmation of dates please refer to the timetable on the website. NB the Before School club run by Premier Sport on Mondays and Thursdays will begin next week too (see the website for details).

Volunteers to help with Orienteering & Y6 Swimming

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

We also require some parental helpers for the journey for the Year 6s when they go swimming. These sessions will start on the 16th 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.

Music in School

We are always keen to develop musical opportunities for all children and we are very fortunate in having a wonderful specialist teacher, Mrs Onatskaia. All children have a music lesson every week following the national curriculum. They also take part in a class musical production during the year. Some children join the lunchtime choir and recorder groups and have opportunities to perform in assemblies or special events. We would like to encourage children learning a musical instrument either in school or out of school to perform in assembly. Please encourage your child to sign up to play – a list is kept in the office. If you are a musician or know someone who would like to play in assembly please contact the office as it would be fantastic to have more live performances in school.

Digital Parent Support Service

Being a parent/carer to a child or young person can often be difficult without emotional support and guidance. Many parents/carers feel confused by what information is available or struggle to access services close to home. Family Action's [Digital Parent Support Service](#) tackles these issues in a new and innovative way by using a network of 'virtual' volunteers from across the country to support parents through its virtual parent helpline – offering information, support and advice via telephone calls, email and text message. They can also offer regular one-to-one befriending support to parents feeling isolated, as well as counselling sessions. Accessing the free Digital Parent Support Service couldn't be easier. Any parent/carer across the UK can get in touch with the service via telephone, text message or email using the below details.

- Telephone: 0808 802 0222
- Text message: 07537 404 282
- Email: NDPSS@family-action.org.uk

Mental Health

Keep Your Head - Cambs and Peterborough C&YP Mental Health

This website www.keep-your-head.com/cyp/CP-MHS is a central point for information on children and young people's mental health and wellbeing in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This site signposts you to important online information and local services on mental health and wellbeing for young people. There is information for children, young people, parents, carers, teachers and other professionals.

School Meals

The school lunch menu for September will be sent out in the next few days.

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

Meals per week	1 st half term	2 nd half term
5 meals	£79.20	£93.60

Whole term	4 Sep – 19 Dec	£172.80
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Shop online to raise money for Newnham Croft Primary School PTA, Cambridge!

Newnham Croft Primary School PTA, Cambridge is registered with Easyfundraising so that we can benefit from our supporters shopping online! Over £5 million is generated annually by leading UK good cause shopping website easyfundraising.org.uk for over 50,000 causes just like Newnham Croft Primary School PTA.

Newnham Croft Primary School PTA earns the cash donations when people register to support us and shop online through the site. It's a really simple process, all you have to do is:

- Register at www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- When you're asked to choose your cause, select Newnham Croft Primary School PTA, Cambridge.
- Get shopping - it couldn't be easier!

There are over 2,700 online retailers available, including Amazon, John Lewis, eBay and Tesco and all will give a small percentage of what's been spent back to Newnham Croft Primary School PTA to say thank you for shopping with them. Please consider using this easy way of raising money for our school and spread the word to friends and family!

Diary Dates for September

Meet the teacher (not Reception) 9-9.30 am 6 Sep
Clubs start this week 9 Sep
Welcome sessions for all Rec children 1.45-2.45pm 10 Sep
Rec children start part time 11 Sep
All Rec children stay for lunch on their own 16-20 Sep
All Rec children stay full time.....w/b 23 Sep

Community News

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 17th to the 24th 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

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

Yours faithfully,

Andy Matthews, Headteacher