



# Newnham News

Friday 19 September 2025

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

[NET donation link](#)

Dear parents/carers,

Now that we are settling more fully into the term (only just, if you're a Reception parent!), I wanted to run through a few basics that will help things run smoothly for everyone.

## Morning drop-off

Please begin leaving the playground as soon as the first bell rings. The firmer you are about saying goodbye (and being able to "blame the bell"), the quicker your child will settle into a clear routine. This is especially important for children who find parting difficult. Also, please remember that children are not allowed on any of the equipment before or after school as staff cannot supervise at these times.

## Travel to school

Whether you come by foot, bike, scooter, or car, please be considerate of children, families, neighbours and other road users. If you are driving, leave enough time to find a safe place to park. Please do not park on the double yellow lines at the top of Chedworth Street.

## Front garden

The Eco Committee will be meeting for the first time on Tuesday. Their top priority will be planting up the new front garden. To protect this space, please remind your children to stay off the flower beds. As one parent pointed out, they may look like "mud" now, but we don't want stomping habits to continue once the plants are in.

## Independence and problem-solving

Please encourage your child to bring any issues directly to an adult in school, rather than asking you to speak on their behalf. Developing the independence to do this helps them build important skills of agency and ownership over their lives and problems. Of course, we recognise there will be times when this is not possible or appropriate.

Thank you to all of you who are already supporting these aims - it makes a real difference.

Have a lovely weekend, one and all.

Kind regards  
Edward Ferguson

## Diary Dates

Early Years workshop for parents/carers	9.15am	Mon 22 Sept
Y6 swimming (every Tues this term)		Tues 23 Sept
PTA meeting	6pm	Tues 23 Sept
Reception forest school		Fri 26 Sept
Year 4 forest school		Fri 26 Sept

## Coming up.....

Y6 museum trip		Wed 1 Oct
School book fair	after school	1 - 7 October
Y5 museum trip		Thurs 2 Oct
Flu vaccination		Wed 8 Oct
Y6 breakfast cafe		Fri 10 Oct
Harvest assembly	all parents/carers welcome	Fri 10 Oct
Open afternoon		Mon 13 Oct
Please check the school calendar on our <a href="#">website</a> , which is updated regularly.		

## Whole school news

### Flu vaccination - date changed to Wednesday 8 October

The school vaccination team is coming to our school on 8 October. To consent or withdraw consent to either a nasal spray or injection, please read the attached information sheet or click [here](#).

### Eat lunch with your child

Ms Noble and her kitchen team will be inviting parents in for lunch again this year. First up will be Year 6 on Thursday 16 October. Year 6 parents please sign up [here](#). Other years will be invited in due course.

### Breakfast cafe

Year 6 will be hosting a breakfast cafe on Friday 10 October, just before the Harvest Assembly. Come along and buy a pastry to support them as they raise funds for their end of primary school activities. You are then invited to join us for Harvest Assembly, where the children will sing some seasonal songs.

### Short story competition

If your child is interested, the BBC are holding their annual 500 word short story competition (entries to be submitted by Friday 7 November). Find out more [here](#).

### Book Fair at Newnham Croft

We're excited to announce that our school will be hosting a **Book Fair from 1st to 7th October**! This is a wonderful opportunity for

you and your children to discover new books to enjoy at home, while also helping us raise funds to purchase new books for our school. The fair will take place after school each day. For full details, please see the attached flyer.

### School photos

The Pret-a-portrait team is coming to take individual photos on Thursday 16 October. Siblings in school will be photographed together as well as individually. If you have siblings outside of school, they are offering a family session at 8.30am on that day. If you're interested in this, let the office know by email to [office@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk).

### School Meals

The weekly menu is attached and [online](#). The menu next week will be Week 1. The cost of a school meal is £2.75.

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).

## Classroom news

### Reception

We've had an excellent full week in Reception and are settling into our classroom and outside area. There has been plenty of reading, drawing, imaginative play and getting to know each other. Well done Reception. We look forward to seeing parents and carers at the workshop on Monday at 9.15am.

### Year 1

We've really settled into the full swing of Year 1! This week, the children completed a piece of instructional writing on how to plant a bulb. Their learning was inspired by *Jasper's Beanstalk* by Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen, in which the character Jasper plants a bean but impatiently fusses over it—he even mows it down and wonders why it doesn't grow! To avoid making the same mistakes, the children wrote their own clear step-by-step instructions, remembering to include the most important tip of all: be patient.

### Year 2

This week has been full of exciting learning in Year 2. In maths, we explored making amounts with money, recapped our coins, and began finding totals and change from 20p. In English, we continued exploring traditional tales, met the Big Bad Wolf, and practised oral storytelling. In geography, we compared the North and South Poles, while in RE we learnt about how and why some people celebrate Harvest. In gymnastics, we used last week's travelling skills on equipment.

A reminder that Little Wandle books are changed on Wednesdays and please can they be brought in a reading folder. Finally, for anyone interested, over half term, The Junction is showing *The Three Little Pigs* this would be a wonderful chance to connect with our classroom learning.

### Year 3

Year 3 has had a really productive week. In our maths sessions we have worked on placing numbers along a number line up to

1000. In our English sessions the children learnt how to recognise the difference between a noun phrase and an expanded noun phrase and worked on identifying them in our class text. In our geography session, the children learnt about how different types of mountains are formed. In our RE session, they learnt how different world views believe humans were created. Finally, lots of fun was had in our first French lesson, where the children learnt how to introduce themselves to one another and say hello and goodbye. Au revoir for now.

### Year 4

This week in maths we have been using our understanding of place value in 4 digit numbers to add and subtract. This has helped us with mental methods where only the digits in certain columns need to change. We also practised the counting on method (or frog method) for numbers larger than 100. In English we have found evidence about new characters in our 'Grimwood' class book. We have also been collecting interesting words from the book that we'd like to try out, such as skulked and snaffling. We also thought ahead to how the problems in the story will be solved. In RE we introduced the new topic 'What makes us human?' In science, we conducted an experiment to see how quickly ice cubes melted in different temperature conditions and how ice affects the temperature of the water. We really enjoyed our first forest school session of the school year. Spelling words this week begin with the prefix 'in-' meaning not.

### Year 5

This week in history, Year 5 continued their Ancient Greece topic, comparing Spartans and Athenians, their education, military training, and governance. In maths, the class explored six-digit numbers, place value, number lines, and rounding. Science saw pupils investigating whether materials are translucent, transparent, or opaque. In English, the children used inference skills while reading *Goth Girl*, predicting character behaviour and writing adverbial sentences. We were also delighted to welcome Advah's mum, Rotem, and Ben (Year 3)'s dad, Jonathan, for a special assembly on the Jewish New Year. The children enjoyed apples dipped in honey and made New Year cards using craft materials kindly provided by Rotem. Advah also shared delicious honey cakes with the class — thank you to both for helping us celebrate!

### Year 6

This week Year 6 has learnt BODMAS which we really enjoyed. In science we were researching the life cycle of different animals. We did 3 baseline SATS tests for maths. Year 6 appreciated our new books bought by the parents. Also we had our first week of swimming.

*by Leah and Bianca*

## Community News

### Swap and Sell

Have a look at the attached poster for more information on a Swap and Sell event in Newnham Social Club on Saturday at 10.30am.