



Newnham News

Friday 1 May 2026

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

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Dear Parents/Carers,

The PTA met on Tuesday this week.

First on the agenda, a variety of requests from school staff (a guillotine, classroom blinds, books and bark for the Island, to name a few). All kindly approved and gratefully received by the school.

Discussions then moved on to the all important Summer Fete. Please CLEAR YOUR DIARIES and book the date - **Sunday, 5th July, 1-4pm.**

Like last year, tickets will be available to pre-order (£2 children and £4 adults) or be bought on the gate (£3 children, £5 adults). It is easier for the PTA to manage the event if tickets are bought earlier, hence the reduced prices.

The PTA has undertaken an ambitious plan to revamp the older play equipment in the corner of the playground by the Scout Hut, so the event will be raising money for that.

However, at least as important is the coming together of our community. Our lives are so ridiculously busy, it is a wonderful joy to take a couple of hours just pottering around amongst friends, with children safely tearing around whilst the adults share tales of the ups and downs of life. Please don't miss it!

Kind regards,
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

May day bank holiday - school closed	Mon 4 May
Y4 trip to Grafham Water	Tues 5 May
Y4 return from Grafham Water <i>approx 3.15pm</i>	Wed 6 May
Y6 netball club <i>8am</i>	Thur 7 May
Y5 running club <i>8am</i>	Thur 7 May
Y3 forest school <i>morning</i>	Fri 8 May

Y6 forest school *afternoon* Fri 8 May
RSE workshop *2.30pm* Fri 8 May
Please check the school calendar on our [website](#), which is updated regularly.

Whole school news

Language of the term

This term we are learning phrases in Yoruba, an African language spoken by more than 20 million people - see the attached document.

Worry workshop

Thank you to the parents who came along on Friday last week to the Worry Workshop. I hope the session was useful, and I am grateful to those who were able to share their experiences and ideas. The slide presentation (which includes the video links) is attached with the newsletter. Any feedback, or ideas for other parent sessions would be great. Just see Mrs Turner.

Volunteer gardeners

Are there any gardeners in our community who would like to take over the management of the school's various flower beds? There are four main beds, and it is tricky for staff to find time to properly manage them. Pre-Covid, we had a couple of amazing grandparents who came in and tended them. We are hoping someone will want to come in and continue their good work. Please get in touch with the office if this might be you.

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.

Classroom news

Reception

This week in Reception, we have been exploring a creative adaptation of *The Enormous Turnip*, where the children changed some of the characters and even the vegetable! They have also enjoyed drawing their own story maps to help retell their versions of the story. In maths, we have

been learning about equivalence. The children used balance scales to understand that what happens on one side must be equal to the other, developing their early problem-solving skills. We have also been focusing on dental hygiene, learning how to brush our teeth and tongue effectively. We discussed how grown-ups don't want to nag or

remind children repeatedly, but it is their job to help keep children healthy and happy — and brushing teeth is an important part of that. Please look out for a sticking activity your



child has completed, which explains the routine, and encourage them to talk you through it.

A huge thank you to all the parents who came in to support our gardening activities and to those who kindly donated plants — we really appreciate your help!

Year 1

On Wednesday, our Year 1 children enjoyed a memorable trip to the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Cambridge, bringing their history topic on explorers to life



in an exciting and hands-on way.

During our visit, the children discovered the fascinating work of archaeologists and anthropologists, learning how they uncover clues about the past and study different cultures from around the world. The children embarked on imaginary explorations across a range of environments, sparking their curiosity and sense of adventure. They also had the opportunity to look at a variety of artefacts, discussing what these objects might tell us about the people who used them. It was wonderful to see the children asking thoughtful questions and making connections to their classroom learning. The trip itself was just as enjoyable as the destination. On our way to the museum, we were treated to a beautifully sunny walk along the river, even spotting cows relaxing in the sunshine. A huge thank you to our amazing parent helpers who supported us throughout the morning. Your help made this trip possible.

Year 2

This week in English, we focused on writing adjectives and developed our vocabulary to describe a character's appearance and personality, while also using time connectives to help us sequence our stories clearly. In maths, we used our knowledge of multiplication to draw arrays and explored grouping as a model for division, beginning to understand that sometimes there may be 'some left over' after dividing. In religion & worldviews, we explored different ways people pray and worked in groups to discuss what prayer means to different individuals. In geography, we learned about the features of the Jurassic coast and used Google Earth to identify a range of physical features. In science, we had a fantastic time searching for minibeasts and exploring the biodiversity of our school grounds. In art, we worked hands-on with clay as we began planning our clay tiles, practising key pottery skills such as impressing, scratching, adding raised elements and discussing joining techniques including scoring and using water. Well done, Year 2, on a brilliant week. Keep up the great work!

Year 3

Year 3 has had a great week. In maths, they continued to read time using the 12hr and 24 hour clock. Later in the week, they learnt to calculate how long it would take to complete different journeys and worked on adding and subtracting money using pounds and pence. In our English lessons, the children enjoyed writing similes and trying to find examples of 'the power of three' in their reading books. In science, we looked at how the structure of a plant is designed to help its function.

Please note - there is no swimming on Tuesday 5 May but Y3 will have forest school on Friday 8 May.

Year 4

In maths, we practised rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 and then moved onto looking at negative numbers, especially finding the difference between a negative number and a positive number. In English, we finished writing up neat copies of our travel leaflets ready to make a class book. In science, we learned how to measure pitch in hertz and tried out the highest and lowest sound different musical instruments could make.

Remember - the Grafham Water trip is on Tuesday. Arrive to school at the normal time.

Year 5

Year 5 are currently on their residential trip in Thorpe Woodlands.



Year 6

This week we have been writing potion spells based on the one from Macbeth. An amazing football assembly by Alex, Alex, Francis, Solly and Calian.

By Natty and Ben

Community news

Violin lessons at school

If you might be interested in violin lessons for your child (in Year 1 or above), please email the visiting teacher, Mrs Gibbens, at helengibbens@gmail.com for information.