



Newnham News

Friday 7 March 2025

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

[NET donation link](#)

Dear parents/carers,

I cannot add much to the uplift and joy that the spring sunshine has bought this week. The field has finally been reopened and the frolicking children and staff have gambolled around with commensurate happiness.

Thank you to everyone who has donated towards my run on Sunday. You have, as always, been very generous and CPSL Mind have been so grateful for the funds raised. Any last minute donations will be gratefully received (click [here](#) for link). Good luck to Mrs Markham, who will also be storming round the course!

Have lovely weekends and, whether out supporting, taking part or completely ignoring the half marathon, enjoy the warmth and rest.

Kind regards
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

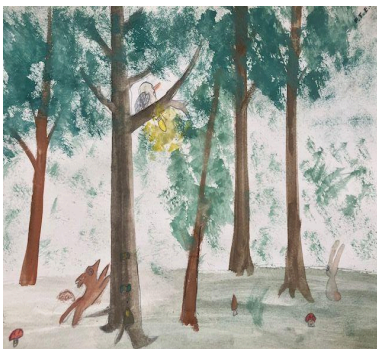
Y5 swimming (and every Tues this term)		Tues 11 Mar
Class photos		Wed 12 Mar
Y5 forest school	<i>morning</i>	Fri 14 Mar
Y2 forest school	<i>afternoon</i>	Fri 14 Mar
Y3/4 trip to West Road Concert Hall		Mon 17 Mar
Comic Relief Danceathon		Fri 21 Mar
Y4 Bikeability		Fri 21 Mar
Y6 residential to Hilltop	<i>9.15am</i>	Sun 23 Mar

Please check the school calendar on our [website](#), which is updated regularly.

Whole school news

World Book Day

Yesterday, the whole school celebrated World Book Day together. This year, we focused on illustrations and, as always, enjoying and sharing books together. We had an exciting assembly from illustrator and author Birgitta Sif, who showed us her amazing illustrations and talked about how she



sets out creating her work. Some of the classes also enjoyed reading her stories later in the day.

We also had a second assembly, which included a fabulous



fashion show, as it was our first 'dress up as a book character' WBD in four years! The whole school shared the start of the wordless book *Follow the Firefly* by Bernardo Carvalho and drew our own illustrations to show what could happen next in the story.

Children all have a WBD voucher that can be used to buy a £1 WBD 2025 book or to take £1 off any book.

Easter HAF Holiday Scheme

See the attached letter on the council-run holiday scheme giving eligible families funding for holiday camps.

School Chess Team

Having achieved 16 points out of a possible 18 at the last event in January, our A-team pulled two more wins out of the bag on Sunday, although we lost to the league leaders (and already promoted) Soham Village College. Our last six results are now:

St John's B	1-5	Newnham Croft
Newnham Croft	5-1	St Alban's B
St Matthew's	0-6	Newnham Croft
Newnham Croft	4.5-1.5	Stephen Perse
Newnham Croft	0-6	Soham Village College
St Faith's C	2-4	Newnham Croft

We sit 6th in the table out of 20 teams, and have had 8 wins, 1 draw and 4 defeats this season. It looks unlikely that we will be promoted this year, but this was never our aim in our first season. We hope to push for promotion to the Carlsen division next year though. Full results and fixtures can be found here:

[Cambridgeshire Chess Championship](#)

Music Festival - sign up now open

All musicians are invited to sign up for our Spring Music Festival on Thursday 3rd April. The Junior and Senior Orchestras will be

performing, which is always a treat, and any small groups or duets are also welcome to perform. Full details here: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tdg2nBHXu76RjNm8EjiNmh1VO6mKXLRbg-njX4pV504/edit?usp=sharing>

School Meals

The weekly menu is attached. The menu next week will be Week 3. The cost of a school meal is £2.65.

Classroom news

Reception

Reception has had an exciting week, thinking about their project-based learning on animals and enjoying a day devoted to World Book Day, thinking about the theme of illustration. In Phonics, the children have been exploring the sounds: 'er,' 'air,' doubling letters ending in 'er', such as "buzzer;" doubling letters ending in 'er,' 'in' and 'ish,' such as "rubbish;" and looking at longer words, such as "comic" and "fantastic." In maths, we have been exploring more of our number bonds to 10 and learning that when you swap the numbers around, it still makes 10, for example $6 + 4 = 10$, and $4 + 6 = 10$. In Literacy, Reception has continued with looking at the story book *Is There a Dog in This Book?* The children have been writing facts about an animal, remembering capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. Well done for a hard-working week Reception!

Year 1

Amongst all of the excitement of the World Book Day events this week, Year 1 has also enjoyed the more regular but also stimulating aspects of the curriculum. In art this term, the class is focusing upon various forms of mark making. The class has been working on skills with the aim to build up to creating shared pieces of art, which we hope to share with you later. Dance is our focus in P.E. and this half term we have been devising dances linked to our history theme of 'toys'. This week, the children were asked to imagine being stretchy toy figures, using long and wide shapes and springing back to the original form.

Year 2

This week, Year 2 has been working hard in maths, writing grouping and multiplication word problems. To finish the week, we moved on to our new money unit, where the children were recognising and finding totals using combinations of coins. In English, we wrote statements and questions inspired by *The Big Blue Whale* and finished the week by practising sentences with and, or, and but. World Book Day was a highlight! We loved seeing the costumes and hearing about favourite books. In geography, we identified and compared the North and South Poles. In art, we created a creative response to two artists who use watercolours. We ended a fantastic week with Forest School—well done for all your hard work!

Year 3

Year 3 has continued to work really hard on their play rehearsals this week. In our maths sessions, the children were introduced to some of the rules that are designed to help them to multiply and divide by 10 and 100. In our English sessions, we continued

to focus on poems written by Alex Wharton. The children learnt to recognise different poetic devices and say what was similar and different about the poems they read. In science, the children learnt to label parts of a flowering plant and explain their different functions.

Year 4

Well done Year 4. Our play is coming along well. You should have received an email with costume ideas this week. Well done to all the people who have been practicing. In maths, we have been adding 3 or 4 numbers and using written subtraction methods. In English, we have enjoyed a funny poem called *The Jumblies* and have looked at using commas. In science, we did an exciting experiment to see how plants affect soil erosion. In computing, we have been planning actions for our robotic pets. Spellings this week end in -ious or -eous. Please focus times tables practice on 7x.

Year 5

In English, we continued to read *Kensuke's Kingdom* and looked at how commas, adverbs and conjunctions make the writing flow better. We also revised other cohesive devices, including personal and possessive pronouns and possessive determiners. In maths, we learned how to divide 3-digit numbers by 1-digit



numbers using short division (bus stop method). We enjoyed the World Book Day celebrations on Thursday and our second Forest School session on Friday.

Year 6

This week in Year 6, we acted out a scene in *War Horse* (the book we finished last week). In history, we have been continuing our Tudors project which is a way for the teachers to challenge our independence by letting us pick what we do within the Tudor topic. We have also been preparing films for the 8th Annual Film Festival happening on Friday. PS We were very happy to welcome our new students, Taemin and Taeun.

By Christian and Thomas NC

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.

Financial Literacy - New Extra Curricular Club

Thank you to all the parents who have already enrolled their children in this new club.

Following up on our previous communication in the Newsletter dated February 14th, we're pleased to inform you that there will be a Presentation and Q&A session on Thursday, March 13th, in the School Hall at 08:50, right after drop-off.

For further information and feedback, please reach out to Diogo Marinho:

- 07799651051
- diogo.m.marinho@gmail.com

Easter Drama Workshop

This Easter, Perform is offering a magical holiday course here at Newnham Croft Primary School suitable for 4-10 year olds. Running from 14th-16th April (10am-3pm), children will explore the timeless story of Snow White - complete with a jealous Queen, a heroic Huntsman and enchanting woodland friends. Through drama, dance and singing, they'll build in confidence and develop creativity, all whilst having lots of fun. At the end of the course, parents will enjoy a special performance where the children bring the fairy tale to life. It's a fantastic opportunity for young imaginations to flourish during the school holidays. Find out more at perform.org.uk/snowwhite.