



Newnham News

Friday 28 February 2025

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

[NET donation link](#)

Dear parents/carers,

Comic Relief is taking place on Friday, 21st March. After discussing some ideas, we have decided to revisit the sponsored Danceathon that we ran successfully a few years ago.

Year 6 children will lead each class in separate, thirty minute dance sessions in the hall. As Comic Relief is celebrating its 40th birthday this year, the music will be from those four decades (something the Year 6s have had practice in as part of their PE unit on dance this term).

One of the attachments below is a sponsorship form. Please print this out and give it to your child/ren so they can start looking for sponsors ready for the busy day.

We are also looking forward to next Thursday, when we will be celebrating World Book Day. If children want to come in dressed as a character from a book, there will be a chance to parade the different outfits in assembly. Please try to guide them to characters specifically from books - no Disney themed outfits - as it is books that are being celebrated.

I hope the training is going well for all fellow half-marathon runners. For everyone, enjoy the rest of the newsletter and have happy weekends.

Kind regards
Edward Ferguson

Diary Dates

Eat lunch with your Y1 child	12pm	Mon 3 Mar
Y5 swimming (and every Tues this term)		Tues 4 Mar
Reception - Vision screening		Wed 5 Mar
Eat lunch with your Y1 child	12pm	Wed 5 Mar
World Book Day - dress up if you like!		Thur 6 Mar
Y5 forest school	morning	Fri 7 Mar
Y2 forest school	afternoon	Fri 7 Mar
Y6 Film Festival	6pm	Fri 7 Mar
Class photos		Wed 12 Mar
Y3/4 trip to West Road Concert Hall		Mon 17 Mar
Comic Relief Danceathon		Fri 21 Mar
Y4 Bikeability		Fri 21 Mar

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

Whole school news

World Book Day - Thursday 6 March

World Book Day is coming up and if they wish, children can dress up as a character from one of their favourite books, the book itself or anything book related. Please don't feel the need to buy a costume, maybe you can make or improvise a costume - be creative!

Easter HAF Holiday Scheme

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

School Meals

The weekly menu is attached. The menu next week will be Week 2. The cost of a school meal is £2.65.

Classroom news

Reception

Reception has had a calm first week back. They have been introduced to their new topic, *Amazing Animals* and we've started thinking in science about how we could look after a dog if it joined our class, but seemed very nervous. How could we make the dog feel happy? What could it be given to eat? What games could it play and where could it sleep? We had a lot of discussion about this and Reception were very good at thinking about the needs of the dog and listening to each other. In Phonics, we have been recapping the sounds 'ai,' 'ee,' 'igh,' 'oa,' 'oo,' 'ar,' 'or,' 'ur,' 'oo,' 'ow,' 'oi' and 'ear.' We have also recapped the tricky words: "the," "I" "put," "pull" and "full." In literacy, we have started exploring the book, *Is there a dog in this book?* by Viviane Schwarz and everyone wrote one sentence based on a picture of a dog, remembering to include a capital letter and a full stop. In maths, we have started exploring number bonds to 10. The children used their active learning time to connect addition number sentences with multi-link models which showed this. Well done for a brilliant first week back Reception!

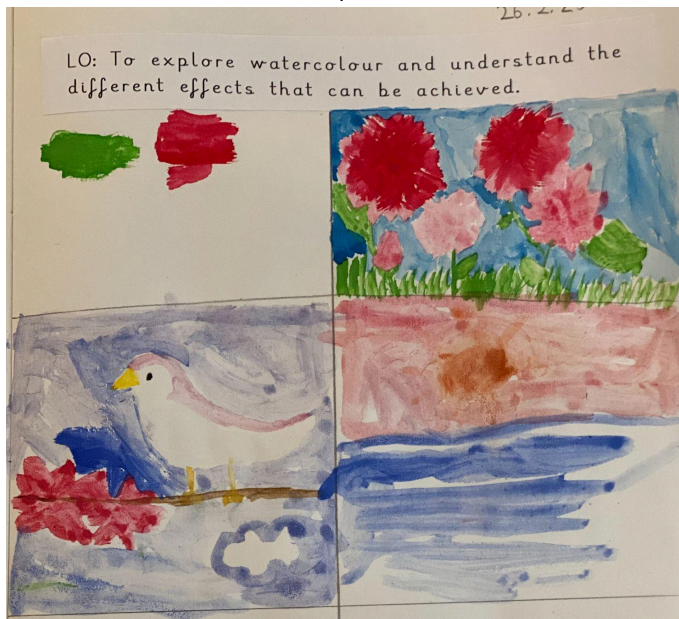
Year 1

As with other classes, Year 1 will be embarking on independent projects for this half term. For our class, the focus is on the topic of toys. After brainstorming for ideas, the children were given the opportunity to plan how they would like to carry their project out. The ideas were varied, with some children choosing to speak to their parents and grandparents about the types of toys they used to play with when they were children and then following this up by creating posters or booklets about what

they have found out. Others have decided to build their own toys from junk modelling resources or wood. If your child speaks to you about his or her project, it would be great if you could share your ideas and even show them the toys you played with (if you held on to them) or internet searches of images of them. Please send in anything that you feel may be useful for them to use.

Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have enjoyed the start of our new topics. In English, we have been comparing typical non-fiction texts to our new book, *The Big Blue Whale* and had a go at writing our own glossaries. In maths, we have been looking at arrays and writing word problems with multiplication and division. The children started planning their science child-led project on seasons and in art we had a great time experimenting with watercolours and brush technique.



Year 3

Year 3 has made an excellent start to the new half term. In maths, the children learnt to tell the time to the nearest minute using both analogue and digital time. Later in the week, they calculated the duration of tasks and learnt how to recognise the number of days in each calendar month. In English lessons, the children really enjoyed learning and performing poems written by Alex Wharton. In our RE session, the children enjoyed discussing what was morally right and wrong. Throughout the week, Year 3 and 4 have been busy rehearsing for their production of *Hoodwinked*. Thank you for all the support in helping them learn their lines.

Year 4

What a great start to the half term. We have been very excited to start our play rehearsals. Well done to all the people who have been practicing. Please bring in any props that are part of your acting so that you can rehearse with them and won't need to try adding in something new later on. Please do ask as we will have some props in school from previous plays. In maths we have been using written addition methods for amounts of

money. In English, we have been writing a report about a new species recently discovered in the rainforest. We have also started thinking about our new topic of *The Vikings* and our new science topic about scientists and inventors. Spellings this week are words from the Y3/4 spelling list. Attached are the ones we decided are the trickiest.

The next Grafham Water payment is due today (28 March) - please login to SchoolGateway.

Year 5

We have had a great week back, launching into our self-led history project on the Tudors. In groups, we have been looking at a variety of aspects of the Tudor era, including sports, crime and punishment, rich versus poor and famous Tudor figures. In English, we began our new topic based on *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo, looking at the different characters and how they feel at different points in the story as the plot progresses. In maths, we learned some different methods to make mental multiplication and division easier (such as multiplying by 10 to help us with multiplying by 5 or 20) and then revised both grid method and short multiplication. We also really enjoyed our first Forest School session of the term and are excited to be doing two more sessions over the next two Fridays.

The next payment for Thorpe Woodlands is due on Monday - please login to SchoolGateway.

Year 6

Monday:

The whole class started planning their animation films for the Film Festival. We found out that our history topic is The Tudors and we planned our projects.

Tuesday:

We started making props for our films and made backgrounds. In the afternoon, we made Venetian papier-mache masks in art.

Wednesday:

In the morning, we made formal letters in English. We also spent some more time working on our films, and in French, we learnt country names for our topic.

Thursday:

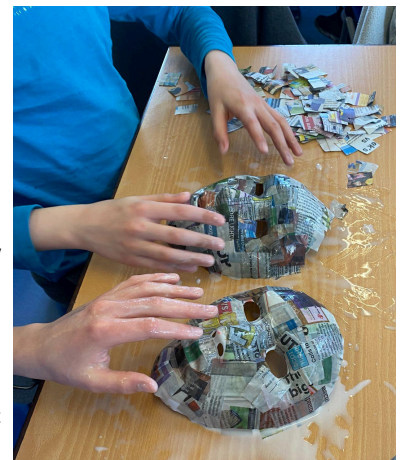
We learnt about area and perimeter in maths, and in the afternoon we did music and PE. In PE, we are learning hockey and in music we are learning about Tudor music.

Friday:

This morning, we learnt about volume in maths. We also did RE with Mrs Turner, and started filming for the film festival. At the end of the day, we finished *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo, which is the book we have been reading for the past six weeks.

By Eddie and Rafa

The final payment for Hilltop is due on Monday - please login to SchoolGateway.



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.

Community news

Tiger £1 bus pass

Please see the attached flyer with details on how to get £1 bus tickets for children across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.