



Newnham News

Friday 26 June 2026

Headteacher: Mr Edward Ferguson

Website links:

[Online safety](#)

[Topic overviews](#)

[Home learning ideas](#)

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Surely, the very definition of keeping calm and carrying on!

To say it has been unpleasant would be an understatement. To say we have maintained our usual speed of work and expectations would be a lie. To say we have managed amicably, gently and with kindness would be true. As far as I am concerned, this is a success.

Amongst all the news reports, the chatter and the opinions the heat has generated, the fact is, life goes on. Hopefully, this is something the children will have learnt this week - uncomfortable, sweaty and tired though we have been, we have all kept going.

We have spoken with the children about being aware of shorter tempers, of lower energy-levels and higher irritability, of adapting to the reality of the moment. And they have managed, as children always tend to.

So well done them, well done parents and a big well done to staff. I extend this especially to our classroom adults who have had 30 mini-heaters in class, each one with a million questions and barrels of energy.

Happy weekends, everyone.

Kind regards,
Edward Ferguson

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

Whole school news

National Writing Day

Wednesday was National Writing Day, and we celebrated with a whole-school writing assembly. All of the pupils, along with many members of staff, took part in creating a poem inspired by Joseph Coelho, the Children's Laureate. Together, we worked on our writing in the hall and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We have been incredibly impressed by the creativity, imagination and enthusiasm shown in all of the resulting poems. It was wonderful to see everyone writing together!

The Big Future Survey

The Children's Commissioner has launched the Big Future Survey, a national survey gathering children's views about their lives, experiences and hopes for the future.

The survey is open to children and young people across England and explores areas such as wellbeing, school and aspirations.

Parents and carers who are interested can find out more online. Click [here](#) if you wish to access the survey with their child.

School Meals

The weekly menu is attached and [online](#). The menu next week will be Week 2. The cost of a school meal is £2.75.

Classroom news

Diary Dates

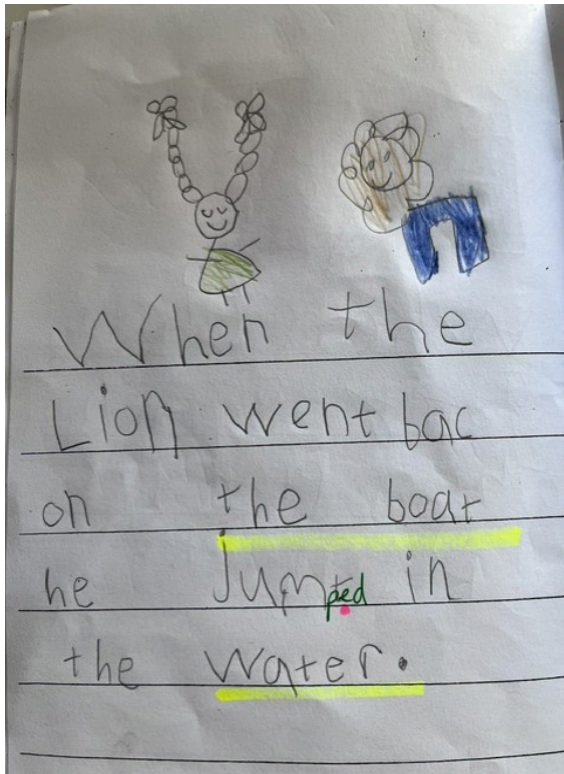
PTA meeting	5.30pm	Mon 29 June
Y6 poetry reading	8.50am	Tues 30 June
Y3 swimming		Tues 30 June
Y4 swimming		Tues 30 June
Y6 netball club (last one)	8am	Thurs 2 July
Y5 running club (last one)	8am	Thurs 2 July
Eat lunch with your Rec child	11.55am	Thurs 2 July
Y2 swimming		Fri 3 July

Reception

Reception has just about survived the heat this week and have continued to work hard despite the high temperatures! In English, we have been writing more poetry inspired by sea creatures, using exciting vocabulary and descriptive language. In maths, we have been consolidating our understanding of odd and even numbers, as well as practising sharing into equal groups. We also took part in the NSPCC PANTS lesson, helping the children learn about staying safe, understanding personal

boundaries, and knowing who to talk to if they ever have worries.

Year 1



This week in English, Year 1 have been busy writing their own versions of *Little Red and the Hungry Lion*. The children used their creativity to adapt the story and worked hard to include exciting

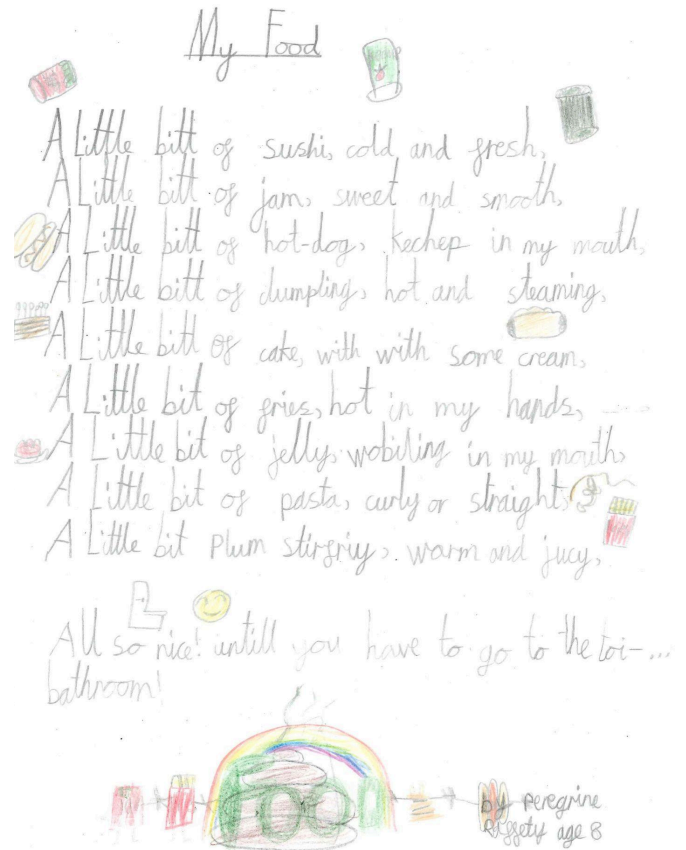
vocabulary and clear story sequences. Our extra focus this week was editing our writing. The class had the opportunity to become "teachers" by using highlighter pens to carefully check their work for spelling and grammar. They also highlighted parts of their writing that they were particularly proud of, celebrating their wonderful ideas and achievements. The children showed great enthusiasm and responsibility as they improved and reflected on their work.

Year 2

This week in English, we explored noun phrases to describe heroes and villains. We wrote character descriptions in two sections, focusing on a superhero and their nemesis, and practised using past and present tense, as well as adding the suffixes -ing and -ed. We also planned our own superhero stories, thinking about problems characters might face and how they can be resolved. In science, we investigated materials to help plant growth, testing their properties and using observations to answer questions. In history, we explored how William the Conqueror ruled, focusing on Norman castles. In DT, we designed balanced wraps based on design criteria. In computing, we created quizzes using ScratchJr by changing sprites and backgrounds. In maths, we have been recapping addition and subtraction, including partitioning and counting on and back.

Year 3

It's been a very hot and sweaty week in Year 3 but despite all of this, the children have worked really hard and



remained as focussed as they could possibly be expected to be. In maths, we started the week by looking at right angle turns. Later on in the week, we revisited 3D shapes and continued to recognise and describe their various properties. The children really enjoyed the orienteering on Monday and Wednesday's writing workshop, where they were inspired by the Children's Poet Laureate to write poems based on their favourite foods. In history, the children learnt how the Earl of Shaftesbury successfully campaigned to change the working conditions and prospects for young Victorian children.

Year 4

Year 4 had an amazing afternoon learning orienteering skills at Lammas Land this week. Not only did they learn map skills but they also had the opportunity to think critically and problem solve independently to complete a range of challenges. In maths we have been solving multi step word problems using all four operations. In English we have been inspired by "Flotsam" to imagine an underwater world and have written descriptions that intrigue and captivate the reader. We have learnt to write compound sentences that link coherently using effective language, prepositional phrases and ambitious vocabulary

to enhance our descriptive compositions. In maths, we practised calculating the perimeter of rectilinear shapes and had a go at various challenges and investigations about area and perimeter. In English, we finished planning our persuasive letters and began working on our first drafts. We enjoyed our water safety lesson and learned lots about staying safe near water, as well as how to safely help people in difficulty in water. In PSHE, we discussed scientific names for body parts and talked about differences between children's bodies and adults' bodies.

Year 5

Year 5 has had a very warm yet active week. We began with orienteering, and the class enjoyed spending time using maps to locate different areas around Lammas Land. In English, we have been finalising our work on *Birdsong* by writing three paragraphs based on a chosen theme, describing the story's setting using relative clauses, expanded noun phrases and similes. In maths, the class has been revising how to add and subtract decimals, as well as identifying equivalent calculations (for example, $4 \times 5 = 18 + 2$).

Year 6

This week, Y6 has been working very hard. Here are some of the things we have been doing. In English we've been working on our poetry books and guides to Y6 that we will be giving to Y5. In maths, we've been looking at tessellation and fractals. On Monday Y5 and Y6 both had orienteering and it was very fun. We have some big events coming up, these include the Summer Fete, the poetry reading where you will be able to read some of the Y6s poems, and the school sleepover which the Y6s are very much looking forward to.

By Giselle, Maya and Ahyun

PTA news

PTA School Summer Fete - Sunday 5 July 2026 1pm - 4pm

Come one and all to the summer event of the year! Join our wonderful school community for this year's Summer Fete and enjoy good food, fun activities, and exciting raffle prizes.

To beat the queues, we're trying something a bit new this year to encourage as many of you as possible to book in advance. If you book [online](#), tickets are £4 adult and £2 child. On the day it will be £5 adult and £3 child. As always, if there are any families needing support with buying tickets, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Raffle

Our ever popular raffle will be back. If anyone can offer any exciting raffle prizes, please do send an email to the PTA (newnhamcroftpta@gmail.com).

Many hands make a school summer fete

The success of the Summer Fete always depends on many helping hands, so please do put yourself forward to help with either setting up, scooping yummy ice cream, serving food, playing bar tender, keeping an eye on the inflatable, or welcoming one and all at the gate. It is incredibly helpful to know in advance who can help out, so please do put your name down [here](#) as a volunteer.

Reception stall at summer fete

Reception is looking for donations of books to be sold at the summer fete. Please, bring your donations to school and leave them in a box at drop off or pick up all next week.

Moreover, we will be also collecting not needed toys you have at home to replenish toys for Reception. Items requested are:

Baby dolls, clothes and accessories

Small metal toy cars

Farm animals

Shells

Small figurines

Plastic jugs and toys for water play

Magnet sets

Small emergency service vehicles

You will find our tables set in the hall area on the day of the fete.

Thank you all for your support!

Community news

Sheep's Green Learner Pool is there for you!

With the weather improving, why not head down to Sheep's Green Learner Pool after school one day? This lovely hidden gem, just a short walk from school, is often quiet during the week, making it a wonderful place to relax, cool off, and enjoy a swim. Perfect for children who have outgrown the paddling pool, the pool is 90 cm deep, making it an ideal place to build water confidence and start practising swimming strokes in a safe environment. The pool is open every day after school from 3.30pm–6.30pm and from 10am–6pm at weekends. Best of all, adults can have a dip too and entry is completely free! Find out more <https://sheepsgreen.wordpress.com/>

School music festival

The summer music festival will take place on July 3rd in the school hall (4:30 - 5:30pm). It will feature a performance from the Newnham Croft orchestra followed by solo performances by the school budding musicians. Any child is welcome to perform

independently of their level. Please fill the following form if your child would like to be included in the list of performers: <https://forms.gle/TFsn8R2osPZorLTi6>