

Newnham Croft Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr A Matthews



Autumn 2020

Reception/Year 1 ~ Mr. Ellimouni and Mrs. Cullen (class teachers) **Start time 8.40 am - Finish time 3.10 pm**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to what we hope will be a wonderful school year after such strange and uncertain times! We look forward to getting to know your children that we have not taught and we look forward to seeing some well-known smiley faces. Going into this new school year, we will have very different routines and we hope you find this letter helpful to you and to talk through with your child.

Morning Routine

We will now meet you all at the tree on the field, near the gate to the reception and year 1 outside area at **8.40am**. The children will be asked to sanitise their hands and head into the classroom independently. They will place their RAINCOAT (please bring one every day) on the back of their chair, as we no longer use cloakrooms.

Active Wear

We are an active school and we ask that all children come to school in Active Wear every day. This means we can make the most of our learning time with all children being ready and not having to wait for others to change. The children are as physical and active in break and lunch times as they are in PE so it makes sense that they have suitable clothing at all times. We ask that they are in trainers and comfortable clothing so they are able to move freely (no denim or skirts and dresses please).

Lunch

If your child will be having a packed lunch, they bring that with them to the classroom. If your child would like a school dinner, they will be asked in the morning what they would like from the menu and they make their choice. The order is then sent through to the kitchen. The children will no longer have choice at the serving hatch. You can access the menu on the website, it may help to talk this through with your child in advance. Our class will sit down in the hall for lunch at 12:00. Don't forget school dinners are free for all children in Key Stage 1! If you think you might be entitled to Pupil Premium please enquire at the office.

Snacks and Water Bottles

A fruit snack will be provided by school for your child every day. Please no packet snacks please, as we are a healthy and eco friendly school. Please continue to send your child's labelled water bottle to school each day. Drinking water regularly during the day helps to keep children well hydrated.

Reading and book bags – Monday and Friday

Home reading has changed!

We will issue books to your child on Monday to be read over the week (remember it is very beneficial to your child to read the same book more than once, it improves fluency and confidence) and they can bring them back on Friday to be changed for over the weekend. With this in mind, if you have any books at home please do return them. Books now need to be quarantined, so it is important that we have all the books back so there are enough to go around.

Teachers

Mr. Ellimouni will teach the class each Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Mrs. Cullen will teach the class on Tuesday and Friday. We will be supported in the classroom by Mrs. Burke and Miss. Jermyn.

Jewellery

The children should **not** wear any jewellery to school including pierced ear earrings but they may wear watches. Please note that watches must be removed for P.E.

Spare Clothes

If your child does have a toileting accident at school, please be aware you may be asked to come in and change them. Children are expected to do all personal care themselves.

Physical Education

P.E. sessions will be on Wednesday and Thursday, but these can often change with sort notice. Children are expected to come to school every day in 'active wear' so there is no need to bring in a PE kit. Active wear means: Clothes comfortable and appropriate for physical activity (no denim and skirts), children should wear trainers. This will enable the children to take part in physical activity every day and save on changing time.

Forest School and Outdoor Classroom

The children will be using the areas outside the classroom to extend their learning as well as Forest School. We ask that you provide a waterproof coat and wellies. We will be doing outdoor learning in all weathers. We are lucky to have Mrs Bicknell back and our Forest School sessions with her this term are on 9th, 16th and 23rd October.

Show and Tell

This oral language activity is wonderful opportunity for your child to talk about things important to them, increase vocabulary and language development and encourage planning and presenting skills to an audience. **This should always be linked to our topic or something we have been learning about in class.** This also gives the class an opportunity to sharpen their question generating and listening skills. Please help your child to plan what they would like to say. Your child will be told when it is their turn.

Italian Lessons

The year 1 children will start to have Italian lessons each week. Classes will take place on Monday mornings for about 40 minutes. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to learn greetings, numbers, colours, foods and other daily Italian word and phrases.

Parent Consultations

Parent/Teacher consultations will be held on week commencing 19th October. More information to follow.

Christmas Production

No doubt there will be changes to this this year- more information to follow.

Religious Education

The children will be finding out about special religious occasions and how people celebrate them. Many families will be celebrating special occasions this term, which have a religious significance for them e.g. Ramadan, Hanukah, Christmas. It would be very much appreciated if any child would like to share their experiences with the class. This might involve a short talk, showing photographs and artefacts, followed by a question and answer session. If you feel able to support your child in this area of the curriculum please let me know.

We will be having a short information meeting, for those wishing to attend, on Wednesday 9th September at 5.30pm – a Zoom link will be sent out for you to join. This will be to discuss the information in this letter and talk about the year ahead. Meetings will be recorded if you cannot attend, or simply ask the teacher outside for an update.

Thank you for your support in making such a positive and happy start for your child in this new school year.

Kindest regards,

Youssef Ellimouni and Judith Cullen
Class Teachers