



Newnham News

Friday 2 July 2021

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

Attachments

- Lunch menu

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'll start this week with more fantastic sporting news from our Year 6 Netball team, who won their tournament this week and progress to a final against another tournament winner before the summer break. Well done to them, they played brilliantly.

Also a huge well done should go to the Year 5 children for putting on such a wonderfully creative outdoor performance yesterday evening. It was so great to see some parents being able to see their children shine in the flesh again, this is hopefully the first of more opportunities for you to be able to see your children being brilliant without it being on a screen! One of these events that I'm excited to flag up for you is going to be the Family Fitness Event on 24 September (all being well). We'll share more details regarding this closer to the time.

In the meantime I do need to remind all of you that cases in the local area are rising and many local schools have at least one bubble closed. We've done really well to avoid this so far, but I need to remind you that this is only possible when everyone follows the guidance and does all they can to avoid unnecessary mixing. We are three weeks away from the summer holidays and it would be really sad if the contact tracing for bubbles mean that families will need to isolate at the start of the holiday and perhaps miss their holidays because of this.

Much as last year we will be delivering school reports via email, simply to avoid lots of people touching lots of paper documents. You will receive these on Thursday 8 July.

Finally I have a request from the school. If any of you have any old car booster seats that you no longer have need of, it would be really helpful if they could be donated to the school to cover for when we need a few spares for school trips. If you do have any going begging then please just drop them in at the school office. Thanks.

Green Flag

We are delighted to have found out yesterday that we have been awarded the Eco Schools' Green Flag Award for the fifth time! This award requires renewal every two years and, although things have run slightly differently since the pandemic, we have been able to demonstrate that as a school we put the environment at the heart of what we do.

The children constantly impress the staff with their enthusiasm, creativity and passion towards the environment, and Year 5 have done a great job of leading the committee this year while we've been unable to carry out our usual meetings. One of our greatest achievements

over the past two years has been increasing the understanding of the biodiversity of our school. When we compared how many species the children in the school could name now, compared with 18 months ago, there was a 107% increase! So many children can name various species of bird, butterfly and spider and know what they can do to protect the creatures that live in our school grounds. We are very proud to have been recognised for all that the school community do and look forward to continuing our action next year.



Summer Music Festival

Thank you to the large number of children at school who signed up to play at this afternoon's Summer Music Festival. We were delighted with the response and only sorry that, due to covid restrictions, not everyone who wanted to play could be added to the programme. We are planning to restart regular music festivals with full audiences next year (fingers crossed!), so watch this space for more musical opportunities from the autumn.

Classroom Round-up:

Reception

Do you like spiders? What do think when you see a spider? Well, Reception have been finding out a lot of facts about spiders and then had a debate about this. We discussed all the good things about spiders and the possible bad things about spiders and then agreed that there are more good things about spiders than bad. For instance, we think their webs are amazing and that spiders eat insects that can be a pest. Last Friday the class built this 5 star bug hotel with Mrs Marroncelli



and will be checking to see who the latest guests are. In Maths we have been telling the time and talking about what events take place at different times of the day. Do you eat breakfast before bedtime? Or have lunch at midnight?

Reception/Year 1

This week in R/1 we have continued to learn about the senses, and use them to explore the environment around us. We walked around all of the different school areas and then wrote about all the things our senses picked up on. In Maths we looked at using bar models for addition: Reception to 10, Year 1 to 20 and beyond. On Monday we have Forest School so please ensure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather. It is likely to be warm but please still ensure your child has long sleeves and trousers as the Forest School area has areas of nettles. Have a great weekend!

Year 1

This week in Year 1, we have been looking at irregular words in past tense, eg run=ran, and applying them in our writing. In Maths we have been looking at calendars and learning how to write dates. In Art we have had a go at cat and lion portraits and learning how to persevere when things go wrong! We are really enjoying our topic on animals and are getting really good at researching facts on ipads and in books. Please remember Forest School is on Monday so children should be dressed in long trousers, long sleeves and closed-toe shoes.

Year 2

Year 2 have worked really hard on recapping some of the areas we have focused on during the year. In Maths we focused on the inverse operations (addition and subtraction and multiplication and division) and later in the week worked on a Maths investigation. In English some of the class presented their poems of 'The Tale of Custard the Dragon' to Ms Holliday. The enthusiasm and creativity they showed was really impressive. In Spellings we have recapped words ending in -tion (station) and -el (jewel) and -le (middle). In Handwriting we focused on joining the letter 'q' to the letter 'u'. In Art the children really enjoyed painting their designs onto their shields. In PE the children had lots of fun hula hooping and working on their standing long jump techniques. The children have really enjoyed listening to the second half of 'Dragons and other Beasts' by Kenneth Grahame.

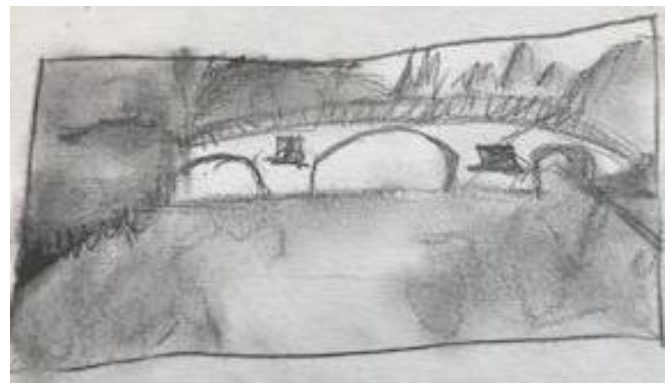
Year 3

As we head into our final month of the school year, Year 3 have had another very busy and hardworking week. In English, the class have been working on more poetry, this time exploring sounds. In Reading sessions, the class looked at the poem *The Sounds in the Evening* written by Eleanor Farjeon. The class discussed her use of rhyme and whether the poem was talking about the sounds you may hear on Christmas Eve. Inspired by the poem, the class then wrote their own version and practised using the ABAB rhyming scheme as found in *Sounds in The Evening*. A few members of the class wrote about the sounds you may hear from a football pitch and others wrote a poem about the sounds you

can hear from your garden. In SPAG, the class were looking at words containing the suffix -sion and found 'invasion' and 'confusion.' In Maths, Year 3 have been revising division and practised using a number line or the chunking methods to work out how many groups of a specific number can be found from a whole amount. They spent the remainder of the week revising 3-D shape and they drew out 3-D nets to help them work out the faces and edges of some more complex shapes. In Science, Year 3 continued investigating different switches and the names of these. In Art, the class have been building on their *Bathers at Asnières* works of art, using watercolour pencils to recreate Seurat's pointillist technique. Well done Year 3 for another very hardworking week.

Year 4

We enjoyed a very varied week in Year 4! In Maths, we completed some end of term assessments and started learning about position and direction. In Geography, to tie in with our maths focus, we learnt about the compass rose and the cardinal directions (**N**ever, **E**at, **S**hredded, **W**heat or **N**aughty, **E**lephants, **S**quirt, **W**ater) and applied this to describing the location of some of the different European countries. In English, we focused on how to use paragraphs in fiction and did a reading assessment. We continued with our whole class reading of the Iron Man and are learning how to find evidence and use quotations from the text to explain our understanding and answer some tricky comprehension questions. We also summarised what we had read so far by drawing a comic strip. In Relationships and Sex Education, we learnt the scientific names for the parts of the body that are



different in females and males. In Science, we looked for and identified the insects we found in our school grounds. In Forest School we made dens and we continued with our sketches of views of the River Cam and really enjoyed working slowly to focus on the process of our art making (see sketch by Marianna and experimenting with different media by Carmen above). Thank you to Ms D'Oily for sharing her enthusiasm and expertise in art.

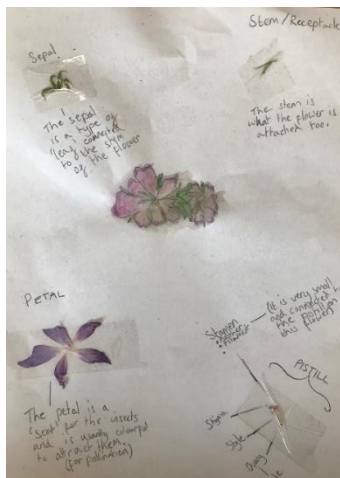
Year 5

On 1 July 2021 our class performed an Alice in Wonderland themed production where we got to write our own 5-minute scripts. We got to decide who we worked with and planned what we should do (based on Alice in Wonderland of course) and tried to make the characters as mad as possible. Down the Crab Hole, Clockface and Dog, A Mad Hatter's Tea Party, Super Core, Backwards Birthday Party, Dusty the Dustbin, Parrot vs Monkey and Circles and Squares were the scenes that our class made. The settings were outside on the island as it is a great place to perform. We performed in different spaces so the parents got to move around seeing more than one. They filmed some of it to show family members at home because only one person was allowed to come.

By Tomke Green

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been practising for sports day and for the Year 6 play. As usual, we are having Forest School on Fridays - any parents welcome! Children going to Comberton received special work to complete. To prepare for Comberton the whole class (even those going to different schools) had a Spanish lesson. In Science, we learned about plant reproduction (see Laura's work pictured here)



and had two RSE lessons, one with Mrs Turner. *By Adam*

School Meals

The school lunch menu is attached. Next week will be week 2 of the new 4 weekly cycle. The cost of a school meal is £2.40.

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

PTA website: <http://www.newnhamcroftpta.btck.co.uk/>

Yours faithfully,
Andy Matthews, Headteacher

Community News

Cambridge Open Studios 2021

Artists will be opening their studios to visitors for up to 4 weekends in July. This year the listings information and maps are all online and details can be found at www.camopenstudios.co.uk. At 22 Marlowe Rd (no.75 in the guide) 3 artists will be exhibiting their work: Ruth Schmid upcycles materials to make unique and functional bags and accessories, Betka Milligan has a new collection of ceramic objects and sculptures and Sue Lawley is showing atmospheric wild swimming and other paintings. Come and have a look around this and other studios in July.