



Newnham News

Friday 20 March 2015

Headteacher: Mrs S Williams

Attachments:

- Early Intervention Family Worker
- Core Book List

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium!

Year 3 and 4's production was superb. The children had worked incredibly hard to learn the songs and their lines and the audience appreciated the jokes and the play's powerful messages. Many thanks to all the staff involved who also worked very hard to support the children and create the stage, props, scenery and costumes – Mr Jach, Ms Bristow, Mrs Woods, Mrs Palmer, Mrs Cole and Ms Thorogood. Thank you to Linda in the kitchen for making delicious cakes and Mrs Bracey for the tickets! Particular thanks to: Mrs Onatskaia, who inspired the wonderful singing, the Year 4 recorders and Year 3 ocarinas – all part of the performance; Mr Pinnock who wrote the script and directed the play, amazing everyone with the talents that the children revealed.

This half term we are continuing to use French greetings:
Bonjour – good day/hello, *Au revoir* – goodbye.

Our assembly music for the next week will be Villa-Lobos Prelude No 2 for Guitar.

Red Nose Day Friday 13 March 2015

The final total raised was £519 - so thank you all for your support.

Lost Property

Please claim all items by the end of term.

School Centenary

This year Newnham Croft Primary school will be 100 years old. Staff, Governors and the PTA are planning a weekend of celebrations in July and on 28 September (the actual first day of school in 1915 was 27 September) we will have a birthday assembly for the children. On 10 July we have an open evening 4.30 – 6 pm in school (this is instead of International Evening) when you will be able to enjoy the children's learning about the school and its history. Please note this will be open to the wider community as we hope local residents and alumni will join us. On Saturday 11 July the PTA will be holding the annual summer fete.

The PTA is running a competition to create a poster to encourage alumni to come forward with their memories of Newnham Croft Primary. This has been set as homework so that all the children can enter.

Science Week

We have had an exciting week in school with Years 5 and 6 enjoying University workshops – all part of the science festival which continues this weekend.

Today we had a whole school science day which was fun and messy! The four activities that all the children took part in were making weather vanes; balloons with CO₂, salt volcano and ooze!

Things that they learnt about included: density, solutions, reactions, properties of materials, texture and much else besides. Thank you



to Miss Holliday for organising the events and also to the parents who have come into school to give talks.

Year 5 and 6 have had two separate outings to Cambridge University departments. They visited the Department of Chemistry for the annual lecture - this time focusing on light and chemicals that can be used to emit it. The following day they visited the Department of Engineering where they created a launch pad and rocket from bits of paper. As always, both sessions were extremely well received, and the children learnt a lot about science.

<http://www.sciencefestival.cam.ac.uk/>

The Newnham Elm Tree



Our school elm tree has been planted! On Wednesday 18 March the Eco Committee and the Gardening Club got together and planted the elm tree. Under the careful guidance of Dr Gelson and Mrs Nicholson, we placed the elm tree in to the hole and Dr Gelson sprinkled plant fungus in the hole to help the roots to grow. Once we'd put the earth back on top, the protector was put on to the tree so it wouldn't be eaten by animals or hit by any balls. Now we need to register our tree with The Great British Elm Project, start to monitor and look after it and wait for our tiny sapling to, hopefully, grow into a beautiful elm tree. *Olivia Y4*

Year 1 and 2 Tennis Tournament

Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club has been delivering tennis coaching for Year 1 & 2 classes throughout the term and 8 children were selected by the tennis coaches to play in a tennis tournament at the school on Tuesday 17 March. For many of the children it was their first experience playing in a tournament and the focus was on fair play and trying to accept winning and losing with the same attitude. Year 2's Isabel was top scorer for the girls and Tommy came out as top scorer for the boys. CLTC Tennis Manager James Mills was really impressed with the level of play and the improvement shown by the children over such a short period of time. Further tennis coaching is planned for next term and another tournament will be held in June. Later in the summer it is hoped that Newnham Croft will have a tennis team established to compete against local schools in an interschool mini red tournament at CLTC.

County Finals Gymnastics Competition

On Thursday the Year 4 gymnasts, Katie, Keke, Hector, Milo, Evie and Zian, went to the County Finals competition. They did a fantastic job, with only one full practise session, and now hold the title of 3rd in the County! Well done to Keke who was awarded a respect award for supporting her team mates. The team were also delighted to meet Lewis Smith when he came to Huntingdon Gymnastics Club for a training session. This was a bonus to an already excellent day! A huge thank you to Jessica Grainger Keeble for transporting some of the children; these outings would not be possible without parental support.



Family Worker Visit Wednesday 22 April 10 am

Hello I am Jo Aykroyd, the Early Intervention Family Worker connected with your school. I can offer support and advice and help you to find new ways of managing common issues such as:

- * Understanding and responding to challenging behaviour
- * Establishing rules, routines and boundaries
- * Increasing confidence
- * Improving family relationships
- * Providing information on local support services
- * Access to parenting courses

I will next be at Newnham Croft on Wednesday 22 April to offer some appointments to discuss support. Feel free to contact me through the school or on my mobile 07824 569789. I look forward to meeting you!

PTA NEWS

Film Night

Saturday 18 April, 5.15pm for 5.30 film

For one night only, your PTA presents: **PADDINGTON** Join us for a great night of family fun at school - the school hall will turn into a cinema and you can sit back to enjoy our fun featured film: Paddington. A young Peruvian bear travels to London in search of a home. Finding himself lost and alone at Paddington Station, he meets the kindly Brown family, who offer him a temporary haven. £3 per person, under 2s free. Hotdogs, chips, popcorn and other treats will be available to buy. If you can help, please contact Diane Hird at dianehird@gmail.com. Tickets will be on sale in the school office from Tuesday 24 March.

PTA World Book Day Challenge

Well done to Gosha and Roman for being the scrabble champions and finding the most words in the PTA World Book Day Challenge. You see if you too can find more than 300 words in 'Newnham Croft Primary'! Book vouchers for the winners are on there way!

Book Collection for the New Library

Do you have any children's books at home that are no longer read? If you have any superfluous books that are on the Core Book List (attached with the Newsletter) that you would be proud to see in the new library, please drop them off in the box near the fish tank. The box will be there next week and the week after we return.

PTA Facebook Group

Before you log off for the end of term, log on to Facebook and join your own PTA Facebook group and find out what's planned for next term. Search Newnham Croft Primary School PTA and ask to join - thanks!

Illness

Please remember children should not come to or return to school if they have been sick or had diarrhoea within the previous 48 hours (Public Health guidance). This is to prevent the infection being passed onto other children or staff.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. A copy of this and previous newsletters can be found on our school website: www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk.

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

Yours sincerely

Sharon Williams, Headteacher

Diary Dates

Y5 Swimming..... 24 Mar
Y4 Stibington meeting for parents 3.30pm..... 24 Mar
Y1/2N Forest Schools..... 27 Mar
End of term..... 27 Mar

Community News

Cambridge Literary Festival 14-19 April

The programme for Cambridge Literary Festival is now available and there is a full-to bursting weekend for children of all ages with some truly exceptional highlights. One of our most treasured writers Judith Kerr (Mog, The Tiger Who Came to Tea and When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit) will discuss her iconic books and fleeing Germany aged 9 to escape Hitler; Anthony Horowitz is celebrating the 15th Anniversary of his secret agent creation Alex Rider and the wonderful Michael Rosen makes a much awaited return visit to the festival - he never fails to delight. We are also pleased to welcome some home-grown Cambridge authors including Chris Priestly, Clementine Beauvais and Helen Moss.

Full programme details are available at:

http://www.cambridgeliteraryfestival.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CLF_Spring_2015web25feb2.pdf and the children's programme begins on page 30.

Parent and Toddler Group Worker Required

Are you an experienced childcare professional who can inspire pre-schoolers? Then the University of Cambridge's Graduate Union may have the job for you. Their Friday morning Parent and Toddler Group has grown to the point that they need a group worker. Pay is £35 a session. For a full job specification and to apply, please contact president@gradunion.cam.ac.uk

Job Vacancy April 2015

The New Croft After school and Holiday club which is situated in the Community room of the school has a vacancy for a Playworker. We are looking for an energetic and enthusiastic person to join our small team caring for children aged between 4 and 11 years old. Main duties will be to facilitate safe and creative play opportunities based upon the interests of the children. There will also be some light cleaning and tidying up.

A Level 2 or above Childcare qualification is desirable, however experience is not a prerequisite as training can be offered to the right candidate. This position is primarily for the Afterschool provision which runs from 2.45 pm until 6.15 pm Monday to Friday. There will be the opportunity (optional) to work during the school holidays as well.

The successful candidate will be subject to Enhanced DBS & reference checks in line with LSCB requirements.

If you would like to know more, please contact Maureen, mobile 07812788195 Email: thenewcroftclub@gmail.com and have a look at our website www.thenewcroftclub.co.uk