



Newnham News

Friday 16 October 2020

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

Attachments

- Recognising Coronavirus
- When to self-isolate
- NET donation form

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Thank you for all of your extremely kind offerings for our Harvest collection for Jimmy's. You really have been generous and I've a huge amount of donations to deliver. We had our socially distanced Harvest assembly this afternoon and sung some Harvest songs to celebrate too. I'll deliver all your donations over the weekend following a quarantine period for items.

I hope you all received my letter yesterday regarding the fact that we will be applying additional controls around the school in relation to Covid as Cambridge potentially moves to higher tiers in the Government's risk levels. This document will be shared next week with the additional measures for Medium Risk (where we are now) to be applied as soon as possible. I will confirm with you all when and if Cambridge moves into the High tier and that will trigger the next tier of our measures. Currently the number of cases in Cambridge has doubled each week for the past 4 weeks and last week ended up with 114 new cases in the week beginning 12 October. The message is therefore clear that as a school community we need to be extra vigilant for each other over the coming months and respectful of the deep concerns that many parents and staff feel.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to remind you about the requirement to self-isolate if anyone in your family is displaying symptoms, and what the main symptoms are. I know I sent out documents helping to explain both, but the Local Authority has now done the same (but with some nice colourful graphics). I've attached both new documents to this newsletter, to help highlight when you should be keeping your children off school and booking a test and what symptoms to look out for.

We have also been receiving lots of anecdotal stories from children about planned Halloween parties, large sleepovers etc, which on the face of it sounds worrying. Please ensure that any such party falls within the guidance for social gatherings. We have been fortunate so far to not have to close bubbles and place families back in the position of delivering remote learning for two weeks. I'm also sure that a return to that is not what families want either. Therefore please help us keep the school open for all by limiting the potential for infection between families.

As an alternative to Halloween parties out of school, we will run a Spooky dress up day next Friday, where children can

come in for a £1 donation in spooky costumes. As an Eco school, it would also be lovely if these were not shop bought single use costumes, but rather something recycled or homemade. This is obviously an optional activity, so those of you who may not wish to join in will not be expected to, and we understand why some of you may not wish to.

Parent Consultations

Zoom invitations for the consultations next week will be sent out this afternoon.

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor, starting after half term. We require someone to work 3 to 5 days, 11.30-1.30pm. The rate of pay is £9.43 per hour, permanent, term-time only.

News from Classes:

Reception

The children in Reception are becoming increasingly independent with making 'active learning' choices. 'Active learning' is time in the day when the children are not directed by the staff. They are introduced to resources they can use independently and the staff support their choice of learning. This week we have seen children choosing to practise writing their names, create their own number lines, completing huge puzzles and having tea parties! In Phonics we have begun to segment words orally. For example, the word cat is segmented into the spoken sounds c-a-t. We call this toy talk as it sounds a bit like robot speak. We have also been listening for the initial sounds in words. In Maths we have been looking at the number which is 1 more. So, 1 more than 8 is 9.

Reception/Year 1

This week in Reception/1 we have been looking at measuring in Maths. Year 1 have been using Unifix Cubes to measure objects around the class and also finding items around the school which are longer than or shorter than a metre. Reception have been understanding longer than/shorter than using cut out snakes. In Phonics Year 1 have learned the new split digraphs i-e, o-e and u-e and applying these to sentences. Reception have continued to focus on listening to initial sounds in words and identifying words that begin with certain letters. As part of our Explorers topic, we have looked at the various transport methods of explorers of the past and present. We discussed the different materials necessary to build their transport methods and why they were suitable. Reception were able to explore a range of materials and

describe how they looked and felt. Just a further reminder to please ensure your child is dressed in suitable clothing for PE on a Thursday ie not tight clothing like jeans. We use a variety of apparatus in PE and jeans can be quite restrictive. Have a wonderful weekend!

Year 1

This week Year 1 have been learning about Amy Johnson, the first female aviator to fly solo from London to Australia. In Geography we used an atlas to plot the route that she took, and where she landed to re-fuel. In Maths we have been identifying coins and looking at how to make values using the least coins. To consolidate their learning, please encourage your child to count coins this weekend. In Phonics we have looked at the 'ew', 'oe', 'au', 'ey' digraphs.

Year 2

This week we have continued to have fun learning about pirates. In English the children learnt about the various jobs on board a pirate ship. They used this knowledge to write a persuasive letter to Captain Goller explaining why they should replace him or take up one of the other vacant positions on offer. With spellings the children continued to work on exception words in handwriting. They also worked on their understanding of plurals and knowing when to add -s, es and -ies at the end of them (examples - berries, enemies, foxes and trays). In Phonics we have continued recapping phonic phases 3, 4 and 5 and practiced writing sentences with some of the words containing them. This week in Maths we have focused on money in maths. We started off the week by recapping what the various coins were. We practiced adding totals up and using different combinations of coins to make the same amount. We also used bar modelling to help solve simple problems involving change. In Science we recapped on what the word 'habitat' meant and what they provided organisms with. In computing the children practiced writing algorithms to get their Beebot to move from one coin to another on a mat. Mr Matthews also started to explore simple animation using Scratch. In Music the children continued to practice songs in preparation for their harvest festival and in Art children developed their use of water colours for their greetings cards and used a technique known as wet on wet.

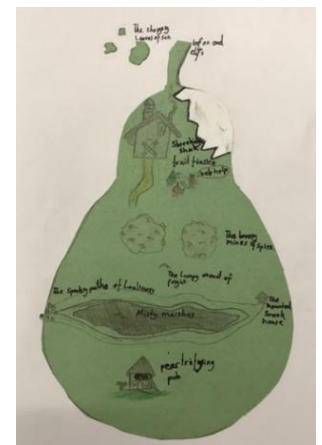
Year 3

This week, Year 3 were very fortunate to have one of the children's grandparents talk to the class via Zoom about the first Roman invasion of Britain. This particular grandparent is a History specialist, and the session that they kindly delivered to the class was extremely interesting. We were all amazed to learn about how elephants were brought over to Britain as an attempt to scare the Celts and the Year 3s also learnt some of the Latin names for the countries during the time that Julius Caesar tried to invade Britain. Subsequent to this session, Year 3 also explored the Celtic warriors. They learnt about the correct names for pieces of armour which the Celts used, and also how the Romans copied some features of Celtic designs.

In Science, we have continued to explore fossils, including the work of the palaeontologist Mary Anning and her famous discovery of an Ichthyosaur fossil. In Maths this week, Year 3 have explored doubling and halving using partitioning; finding fractions of shapes and amounts; the place value of money; and applying their knowledge of their tens and ones to make 100. In English, we have been exploring fronted adverbials and using these to retell the story of Michael Foreman's *Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish*. We have also explored the narrative poem "The Raven" written by Edgar Allen Poe.

Year 4

In English, we have finished and are very proud of our individually designed pages for Year 4's Big Book of Fears, which included lots of clever ideas using language (see below). We've started looking at how to develop our instruction and explanation text writing using a great children's art book as inspiration (The Usborne Complete Book of Art Ideas by Fiona Watt). We've followed some of the instructions in the art book to produce some oil pastel resist pictures of reflections in water. We've also focused on using the correct punctuation and spelling in our writing and have practised lots of editing using a purple pen! We've started a new unit on addition and subtraction in Maths and have been adding two 4-digit numbers with one or more exchanges using pictures of place value grids to support understanding alongside the column addition. To understand the idea of exchanging, we asked the question: which columns are affected if there are more than ten, tens altogether? We will continue next week with subtraction and associated problem solving and reasoning questions involving addition, subtraction and exchanging. In Science, we've discovered how fossils are formed. We've been taking a closer look at some Celtic artefacts and discovered more about the Celtic way of life including how the Celts prepared for battle. In PSHCE we talked about the problem of loneliness encountered by homeless people and began to discuss the qualities of a good friend and how to reflect on our own friendship skills. Here is a map design for Year 4's Big Book of Fears including the landmark, The Peartrified Pub!



Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been taking notes on the Battle of the Atlantic, and realising that one needs to understand how light travels and reflects if you want to make a submarine's periscope. We also started looking at rationing during the war (tied to the Battle of the Atlantic), and compared what you might have eaten in 1943 to what we eat now. In Maths, we've looked at counting-on as a mental method for subtracting numbers and using the inverse operation to check

our answers. Towards the end of the week, we have looked at multiplication and division, finding factors of numbers systematically. Mrs Wood has now completed her third week of times tables testing and is seeing progress of speed and accuracy in the class. Supporting your child to have rapid recall of table facts is really helpful. For children who are finding it hard to learn them, online games can be fun and motivating. Here is a link to some appropriate games: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>. We have also looked at using speech punctuation correctly in our writing and explored the Hindu gods in R.E.

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have continued our WWII project. We have completed our artwork based on the Blitz (pictures below), learnt about the Battle of the Atlantic and Dig for Victory and designed medals for the Battle of Britain pilots. In English, we have been writing dialogue that conveys character. In Maths, we have used negative numbers, which included looking at teachers' bank accounts, and practiced finding common denominators so we can add and subtract fractions. In RE, we have learnt about Hindu Worship.



School Meals

The school lunch menu for next week is week 3 of the current cycle. The cost of a school meal is £2.40 per day. There is a small menu change next week: on Thursday there will be pesto pasta instead of sausage rolls, as an alternative to pizza.

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

School diary dates coming up soon

Parent consultation week Week of 19 Oct

Flu vaccination 13 Nov

PTA update

Greetings Cards

You should have received a photocopy of your child's greetings card artwork this week – if you haven't yet received yours, please speak to the office/teacher ASAP. We have until 22nd October to place orders for cards, wrapping paper, gift tags and other items via the company Art Projects for Schools. Please use the information sent home on the flyer alongside the artwork.

<https://www.apfs.org.uk/christmas-card-project>

Items will be delivered to school by 20th November. The school receives fundraising for each item you purchase.

Tea towels

Tea towels and cloth bags with hand-drawn self-portraits of the whole school will be available to pre-order from next week. Please keep an eye out for the order form from the PTA.

New parents' social – date change

We're running a Zoom social for all parents who have recently joined the school. This was advertised on Classlist as being on Thursday 22nd October, but is being moved forward to Tuesday 20th October due to a clash.

Classlist

Join us on Classlist and stay informed about what's going on in the school community. It's a secure messaging service for use only by parents of school, where we send out PTA updates and parents can start discussions within their class groups. <https://classlist.page.link/fNHrsPAEqQEwpbqJA>

Class Reps

The following classes still need at least one rep:

- Year 6
- Year 5
- Year 4
- Reception

If you're able to offer a little bit of time (only about 2 hours over a whole term!), please do volunteer for this sociable and friendly role.

Year 5 interactive screen - we have £2000 match funding!!

Thank you to all those parents who have generously given towards the Year 5 interactive screen. For every £1 of fundraising or donation we receive now, another £1 will be added by our generous donor! If you are able to help with funding this project, please use the NET form attached to this newsletter or speak to the school office. The new screen will make a huge difference to the learning opportunities in Year 5 (and for all the classes who use this room over the coming years!!).

Easyfundraising

If you're buying something online - gifts, a holiday, clothes, an appliance - see if the retailer is signed up with Easyfundraising. At no extra cost to you, the school receives a donation from the retailer from your purchase! If you're starting to think about Christmas, sign up and make your shopping give back to school. Go here to see which retailers take part and sign up:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/newnhamcroftpta/?invite=OGP3O1&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_source=refmailshare