



# Newnham News

Friday 23 October 2015

Headteacher: Mrs S Williams

## Attachments:

- Dictionary of Lost Languages
- Connecting to Collectivity

## Dear Parents, Carers and Children

We have had a busy and fulfilling first half term of the new school year with plenty of visits, visitors and sports partnership competitions, which all add to the children's learning. The new Reception children have settled into school life really well and are enjoying all their active learning and the wonderful wild garden. We hope you have a happy half term and look forward to seeing you back in school on Tuesday 3 November (**NB Monday is a staff training day**).

After half term our greetings will be Portuguese.

Hello – Olá

Good morning – Bom dia

Good afternoon – Boa tarde

Goodbye – Adeus

The first week after half term's assembly music will focus on The Beatles.

## Parent/Teacher Consultations

Thank you to everyone who came to the consultations this week. If you did not make an appointment to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher please do so after half term.

## School Photographs

Please return photograph orders by Wednesday 4 November.

## Maths Workshop for Parents/Carers

Last year we offered parents and carers the opportunity to come and learn about the calculation methods their children are using in school. On Tuesday 10 November at 2 pm we will be holding another workshop when Mr Ferguson will outline parts of our calculation guidance (which can be found on the school website under Policies - Mathematics) followed by the children exemplifying some of these methods. Please put the date in your diary!

## Football News

On 22 October 24 children from Years 5 and 6 went to Netherhall to play in a football tournament. We all enjoyed it and encouraged each other. We don't know exactly where each team was placed but Mr Goller gave great advice and we all had an amazing time. We would all like to thank Mr Goller, Miss Holliday and the parents that helped, as well as Mrs Wood who provided the clean kit. *Jess and Joanna*

## Tag Rugby News

An extremely successful Tag Rugby Competition on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October. Please see below the final standings after the

POOL and PLAYOFF games. Many thanks to Mr Bull who came in to help coach the team with Mr Goller on Tuesday lunchtimes. Hector in Year 5 writes: *On Monday 19 October a team of tag rugby players (Hector, Zai, Charlies, Thomas H, Thomas W, Numa, Olivia B, Sophie and Evie) went to Coleridge School to play a tag rugby tournament. We played 4 games, we lost 2 and won 2 – our overall place was fourth so I think we all played well.*

Position	School	Competitions Entered	Total Points
1	Abbey Meadows	1	15
2	St Matthews	1	12
3	Sancton Wood	1	10
4	Newnham Croft	1	8
5	St Phillips	1	6
6	Park Street	1	5

## Mosque visit

Yesterday Year 3 and 4 visited the mosque on Mawson Road as they have been learning about Islam this term. It was great to see the children's enthusiasm as they spotted features they had learnt about in school such as the washing area, the qiblah and mihrab. During the visit they saw presentations about the Islamic beliefs and had the opportunity to ask lots of questions. We were all so impressed with the children's behaviour and their thoughtful questions. Many thanks to all of the parents who accompanied us.

## Halloween in Reception/One

Reception/One have been looking at harvest vegetables this week. We counted seeds from our pumpkins and today we carved them. Happy Halloween everyone!



## Tasty Maths?

Over the past few weeks the children in Reception have been eating their hard work. First we made **shape** sandwiches - triangular, square and rectangular ones. This week we have been looking at **repeating patterns** and have therefore made fruit skewers with repeating patterns. Who knew that Maths could taste so good?

## Ancient Greeks

Year 5 and 6 are learning about the Ancient Greeks this term. Here is an example of a Greek shield by Heidi in Year 6.



## Gardening Club - De minimis maxima

This week the gardeners have extended the Great Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastaneum* L.) competition to include the Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur* L.) and the Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa* L.). Our three nut-bearing tree species are all classified in one Family, the Fagaceae. The nuts have been planted in pots and all gardeners have 1-3 pots each. Sacrificial pots will be harvested during the winter and spring to follow germination and growth. The resultant seedlings will either go home or be planted in the Wild Garden. The result: "Tall oaks from little acorns grow". This well known quote is from David Everett's (1719-1813) 'Lines written for a School Declamation' which he presumably culled from Lewis Duncombe's (1711-1730) translation of our heading ('The mighty oak from small acorns grow'). We hope that our efforts will in 100-200 years show mighty trees!



**Nota bene:** The Sweet Chestnut (pictured) is edible, the Horse Chestnut is toxic and must not be eaten. The clear identifiers of the two nuts were demonstrated.

### Binomial Box:

*Quercus robur*: *quercus* Latin = Oak tree, *robur* Latin = of oak.  
*Castanea sativa*: *castanea* Latin = chestnut; *sativa* Latin = cultivated.  
*Aesculus hippocastaneum*: *aesculus* Latin = Italian Oak, *hippo* Latin = horse, *castaneum* Latin = chestnut. There is some confusion how Linnaeus came to use *Aesculus* (= oak) as the generic name for a chestnut ...but why waste a good name?... at least he kept it in the Family!

## Free Tablets for School

If you buy Flora butter, please can you keep the 'Tubs4Tablets' tokens and hand them to the school office. 50 tokens = 1 tablet for school! Find out more at [www.flora.com/tubs4tablets](http://www.flora.com/tubs4tablets)



## Library Volunteers

Thank you so much to the parents who have volunteered to help in the library. We now only have two slots left; a Wednesday and Thursday after school from 3.00 - 3.30pm. Please let the office or Mrs Baker know if you are able to help.

## The Poppy Appeal

During the week after half term Year 6 children will be selling poppies on behalf of this year's Poppy Appeal. The recommended donation for a poppy is 50 pence.

## Shopping

Some of you may start to think about Christmas shopping soon and this is a wonderful opportunity to support the PTA by using Easy funding website. Signing up is very straightforward and then make your purchase via Easy funding – a percentage goes straight to the PTA!

- Register at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)
- When you're asked to choose your cause, select Newnham Croft Primary School PTA, Cambridge.
- Get shopping - it couldn't be easier!

There are over 2,700 online retailers available, including Amazon, John Lewis, eBay and Tesco and all will give a small percentage of what's been spent back to Newnham Croft Primary School PTA to say thank you for shopping with them. Please consider using this easy way of raising money for our school and spread the word to friends and family!

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](http://www.newnhamcroft.cambs.sch.uk)  
PTA website: <http://www.newnhamcroftpta.btck.co.uk/>

Yours sincerely

Sharon Williams, Headteacher

## Diary Dates

Staff training day, school closed.....2 Nov  
1/2C Forest Schools .....6 Nov  
Flu vaccinations for Year 1 and 2 children.....6 Nov  
Y6 swimming.....10 Nov  
Parent's maths workshop 2 pm.....10 Nov

## Community News

### Free half term event at Central Library

Dictionary of Lost Languages - see the attached poster for details.

### History Works presents: Connecting to Collectivity

Join us for an experiment using digital technology to share creative pieces including poems and films co-created by students of Abbey Meadows School. Thursday 29th October 5pm - 7pm Great St Mary's, Market Square Admission free. See the attached poster for further details.