



Newnham News

Friday 28 May 2021

Headteacher: Mr Andy Matthews

Attachments

- Lunch menu

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly a huge thank you to all those parents who kindly donated some drinks for the staff to enjoy after work today. It's been a long and difficult year for everyone, but they've really enjoyed having your children back in school and have equally enjoyed seeing them thrive.

We are all now starting to plan for a revitalised curriculum for September and alongside this we are also looking at reshaping our school vision for the years ahead. The staff and governors have started this process by individually choosing 5-7 words (which can include hyphenated compound words) to best articulate the values, principles and aspects of the school that they hold most dear. These will be collected together into a Word Cloud to present the most important elements of our vision, from which we will derive our school's vision statement. We would now like parents to do the same, and contribute your views on what is most important about an education at Newnham Croft. To do this would you please access the very simple Google form below and add your words to this list. Your help will be greatly appreciated.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdChV7-8KIVHUbvth4oOb-8TBa1pEMXgCVTpzMjM0x6ABhT5w/viewform?usp=sf_link

Well, we've finished the half term in good weather and that looks to be continuing, so I hope you all have a lovely bank holiday weekend and half term.

Classroom Round-up:

Reception

We have been carrying out 'Clever Counting' in Reception all week long. First of all, we revisited counting in 10s and then we learnt to count in 5s and 2s. In P.E. we have been practising catching skills with a large ball and perhaps this is something you could do over the half term break. In phonics we have learnt to read the words 'what' and 'when'.

Reception/Year 1

This week in R/1 we have been working on independent creative writing. We have used picture prompts and 'story mountains' to create our own exciting stories independently using phonic knowledge. In Maths we have been recapping the concepts of: repeating patterns, missing number equations and place value. We have also been continuing with our observational drawing, and took a trip to our field to find leaves of different sizes, shapes and colours to draw and colour using oil pastels - this may be a fun activity to try over

half term. We hope you all have a relaxing and refreshing half term ahead of our last few weeks together!

Year 1

In Year 1 we have been improving our vocabulary. We have learnt to use dictionaries and adding interesting words on to our working wall. In Maths, we have been consolidating our knowledge on partitioning and whole part models. In Science, we have been writing up our 'Do plants need light' experiment. Please ask your child to explain this to you.

Year 2

Year 2 have had another great week capped off with a really enjoyable trip to Mountfitchet Castle. The children enjoyed mixing with the live animals, placing their heads in the stocks and finding out what working life in the castle was like. In Maths we have worked on 2-step problems involving money and recapped adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers using our knowledge on tens and ones. In English we started to write recounts of our trip. In Spelling we recapped some of the spelling rules we have worked on throughout the terms ('o' makes an 'u' sound, eg brother and, 'a' makes an 'or' sound before 'll', eg ball/wall). In Geography we looked at different physical features including mountains, valleys, cliffs and rivers and considered what advantages they might provide a castle with. In Art some of the children completed their 'castle and sun' paintings using a watercolour wash. Thanks for all your support over this half term. I hope you have a great break.



Year 2's about to invade the castle

Year 3

Year 3 and 4's performance of *The Lion King* was a wonderful way to end our first summer term. I was very proud of how hard the two year groups worked on the production. Both classes sang and danced beautifully. Well done LKS2 and thank you to Mr Matthew's for filming the production and Mrs Onatskaia for all of your help with the music and the

songs. In English, Year 3 wrote non-chronological reports on either The Danube River or The Alps. To challenge themselves, the class practised using technical language and added a conclusion to the end of their reports, along with the other features that we worked on last week. In SPAG the class worked on homophones, and the Year 3 Statutory Spellings. In Maths, the class have been revising division using a number line and or the chunking method. The class have also been working on practising a mixture of calculations, (division, multiplication, addition and subtraction). The final session of Maths was spent revising working out fractions of amounts. In Science, Year 3 explored why certain materials are conductors and why some are insulators. In RE the class have been exploring The Five Pillars of Islam. The class discovered what each Pillar represents and how the Pillars are the core beliefs and practises of Islam. Well done Year 3 for an excellent first summer term.

Year 4

In English, Year 4 looked at how to use punctuation correctly when writing speech, with a focus on commas. We also changed play script to narrative by adding speech marks, choosing synonyms for said and describing action for the reader. In Maths, we practised times tables and subtracting money. We played a whole-class fun game of matching amounts of coins with the written total which helped us to recognise the value of coins quickly. In Science, we considered the purpose and design of electrical switches. We revised our knowledge of electrical symbols with a matching activity before acting out the movement of electrons flowing through and electrical circuit. We enjoyed using our new class netballs and bibs and ended this half-term today with some mini-matches using our lovely new kit. Our class motto for this and next week (linked to our spelling practice using the suffix 'ful!') is: Hopeful and happy! Wishing all of Year 4 a happy half-term.

Year 5

In Maths, Year 5 have been looking at volume of cuboids and finishing off our work on percentages, looking at problems involving percentage increases and decreases. In English we have finished our short stories (which are mostly spooky) and thought about how we can build cohesion across paragraphs, as well as writing a poem based on the story of The Titanic. We also had our final Forest School session. Thank you very much to Mr Pinnock for giving Year 5 the opportunity to learn new skills, work together and spend time in our amazing grounds.

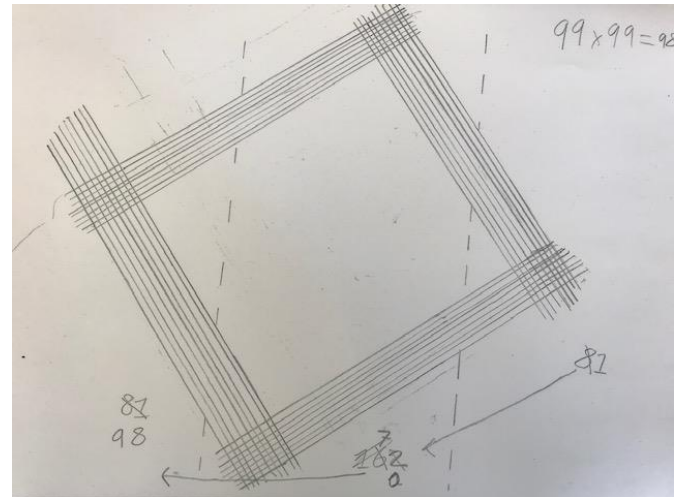
The Titanic by Emilia

As the ship was built, the ice grew high,
Many would think of it, a lie;
"The Titanic was unsinkable,
Unbeatable, undefeatable!"
But this was proved untrue,
Discovered by the loyal crew,
The great ship sunk, it went deep down,
She lost her glory, lost her crown,
And it was far too dark, too late,

But this was her destined fate.
So now she lays beneath the skies,
Listening to the sailors' cries,
Awaiting them to near her grave,
Where she hides below, like an ancient cave.

Year 6

In Maths, we have been investigating methods of multiplication including: the grid method, column method, lattice method, Brahmagupta's method, Napier's Bones and the line method. Currently, our class favourites are lattice and Napier's Bones.



In English, we have started looking at detective stories and have read a Sherlock Holmes classic - some of us guessed who the killer was. In the end, it was a snake coming through a vent, which some of us were very surprised at. In French, we learnt how to say sentences we would use on a regular school day. Now we are required to say 'please may I go to the toilet' in French. In Music, we listened to songs and chose our favourites then we practised singing them for the Year 6 play. In PE, we practised our skills in tennis and played mini games. At the end, we played a few fun games such as around the world. In DT, we will be planning a new project this afternoon. In Science, we used universal indicator papers to test the PH of different liquid substances. We looked at if they were acidic or alkaline and were surprised at a few of the results such as the nail polish remover. In Geography and History, we wrote reports on how the river Cam has changed over the years. *Written by Nhial, Line Method by Benji*

School Meals

The school lunch menu from 8 June is attached; next week will be week 1 of the 3 weekly cycle. The cost of a school meal is £2.40 per day.

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

PTA NEWS

Thank you!

Thank you everyone for supporting the PTA fundraiser for new iPads. The money raised along with funds from our account enables the school to buy 16 new iPads! These new iPads will make an immediate impact on your child's learning so thank you for your generosity.

Another big thank you to all parents and carers who donated a bottle of something for the teachers' celebration dinner. They now have a fridge full of wine and beer and we hope they enjoy a well-deserved drink on us.

After half term, we will hopefully be able to start organising some events so if you would like to get involved, keep an eye on the PTA boards and Classlist.

Save the date! Summer Music Festival

The next Music Festival will be on **Friday 2nd July 3.30-4.30pm**. All children who play an instrument, whether a complete beginner or a more experienced musician, are invited to perform to a small, friendly audience of parents and carers. We are hoping to hold this event in school, if restrictions allow, so do save the date. Details on how to sign up will follow after half term.

Cello Taster Lesson from Cambridgeshire Music

If anyone in Year 3 upwards would like a cello taster lesson, the CM teacher is offering a taster lesson on a Wednesday morning. Please register your interest with the school office.