

The New Croft Club

Newnham Croft Primary School, Chedworth Street,
CAMBRIDGE CB3 9JF

NEWSLETTER: March 2017



Dear Parents,

This is a picture taken at the start of the afternoon.....And here is one taken at the very end of the day!



I am sorry we have not captured all the fun that was had in between the two but I do think they go some way to illustrate the flow of play on the carpeted area throughout that afternoon. The desired box of toys was chosen and things began all contained and orderly. At some point the original players left to go and do other things and new players entered the space and they then added other elements to change the game into 'their' game until by the end of the day the play has reached it's natural end. This is known in playwork circles as 'anihilation'. If we had tidied up too early we would have stopped this natural flow and the monopoly city would not have had the wonderful marble run towers!

Which brings me on to **Resources:** Thank you so much for some lovely and useful donations recently. Thank you for the books, toys, fabrics and Wii games. Thank you for a HUGE quantity of lego and some beautiful crafty bits and pieces and thank you to those of you who regularly bring in good sturdy boxes, egg boxes and other things we can use for junk modelling as that remains one of our most popular activities. It is now coming into the season for making spring flowers and butterflies so if you have any empty plastic water/soda bottles and you don't mind dropping them off we would be delighted to transform them into things of beauty!

Staff news: It has been great to welcome new member of staff Lois to our team and I hope many of you have now had the chance to meet her. Lois is using her artistic talents to good effect and inspiring the children to think of some lovely crafts to make both for

taking home and to decorate our indoor space. Natalie is really enjoying her travels in New Zealand, hiking across landscapes made famous by 'Lord of the Rings'. She will return next month by which time Rebecca will have left to set off on her 'gap year' travels! Otherwise things remain consistent – Rocky is very close to completing her L3 Playwork qualification and Molly, Adam and myself continue to keep ourselves abreast of developments in the out of school sector by attending various local networking 'hub' meetings as well as attending relevant courses organised by Cambridgeshire county council.

Holiday Club: I am taking bookings for Easter Holiday club now so please let me know if you would like me to add your child to the register. The dates are **Monday 3rd April to Friday 18th April** (although we will be closed on the 14th as it is Good Friday and a public holiday). These days the pattern seems to be that we tend to fill up during the first part of the week quite quickly. Therefore, if you do not have flexibility in the days you require it is better to make your booking sooner rather than later – remember you have a 2 weeks notice of cancellation period before the start of the holidays to make changes if you need to. However, if you do not give us this notice, you will be charged for all days booked.

After school club availability: Apologies to those families who have not been able to attend the afterschool club on certain days because we are full. Please rest assured that if your child is on the waiting list I will contact you as soon as a space becomes available. We remain fully booked Monday to Thursday at the moment and this is why swapping days within the week is not as easy as it used to be (unless it is for a Friday!) As existing bookings roll over from term to term and year to year it is impossible for us to predict availability in the future and so we already have a short waiting list for September 2017. We regret that we cannot guarantee that a space will be available in the future for a child who wishes to relinquish their booking temporarily for a term or so and then return, though of course we will do our best to continue to accommodate the changing needs of all our member families.

Finally, **a few important things we need you to keep us informed about:**

- **Any changes** to home address and other contact details – Please ask to check your child's file
- **If a different person will be collecting your child** – we need your permission!
- **If your child will not be attending club for any reason** e.g illness /playdate.
- **If your child is attending another school event during club hours** e.g. play rehearsal/ parents evening/ sports day/ disco/ eco picnic etc. Will you be with them? Will they go home with you straight from the event or come to us? Would you like us to escort them to the event?

Thank you for reading this newsletter. If you have any comments or questions, please don't hesitate to contact us either by catching our attention at the end of a session or by any of the following ways:

- Leave us a message in the message book in the school office
- Phone/text us on mobile no. 07812798195
- email Maureen at thenewcroftclub@gmail.com
- Telephone 01223 311437 during club hours.

Warm regards,

Maureen