

The Newcroft Club

Newnham Croft Primary School, Chedworth Street,

CAMBRIDGE CB3 9JF

NEWSLETTER: March 2020



thenewcroftclub.co.uk

Dear Parents,

How lovely to see signs of spring and the sun returning after what has been a wetter than usual winter. We are lucky to have escaped the worst of the successive storms which have battered parts of the country and the children have as usual embraced all of nature's opportunities for play. They have made the most of the big puddle which always occurs near the cage area by using the wheeled toys from the shed as different transport options, plus they have worked out various ways to recover, without getting wet themselves, stray balls and other items which landed in the middle of the water. Over half term some children even spent time collecting water samples for performing scientific observations, specifically looking for insect larvae. I must admit I was quite glad that none were found!

On days when the field has been too wet to run about on, some of the older children have turned their attention to building dens in the bushes along the edge, making use of smaller sticks blown in by the winds and larger sticks re-purposed from previous dens. The pictures below show the two main dens built and the contrasting architectural styles used.



The first picture shows a den purpose built for defence. It is pretty much inviolable, just large enough for the children who built it to use and has an added bonus feature of a 'snipers window'. The design in the second picture is a domestic house. Built over several sessions, rooms were delineated and added on as needed when the play narrative developed, as other children joined the group and as building skills became more proficient. Note the skillfully designed archway at the entrance made entirely using natural materials found nearby!

Coronavirus: The club is following advice from the government and Local Authority about ongoing and rapidly changing Covid -19 developments . Currently the advice is focused on preventative measures and we are being especially vigilant about encouraging regular and thorough hand washing and the established 'catch it , bin it, kill it' strategies to prevent spread of infection through coughs and sneezes. As usual, we ask that you keep any children who feel unwell at home until they are properly better and should you suspect that a member of the family has the coronavirus please call 111 and follow the advice you are given. We will keep you informed about any further developments. Source (Update 28 Feb 2020) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Parent's and children's questionnaires: Please see attached our latest parent satisfaction survey which we would be grateful if you could fill in and return to us. We will print out a few hard copies too in case you prefer to fill one out while waiting for your child at the end of the day – just ask a member of staff. The children will be

given their survey in hard copy to fill in either at the club or at home if they prefer. Children's surveys will be distributed this week and next depending on days of attendance.

Easter holiday club: Please note the dates we are open are Monday 6th –Thursday April plus Tuesday 14th – Monday 20th April Inclusive. I made a mistake on dates originally published in May last year and am grateful to the parent who pointed it out to me before anyone had booked on the extra days I had added! Dates on the website booking section are now correct. Please let us know if you would like to make a booking, with Easter weekend falling in the middle of the break this year we can look forward to planning lots of fun easter themed activities at the start and progress to more general Spring themes the following week. Early booking is very helpful at the planning stage however, please remember that you may cancel a holiday club booking 2 weeks before attendance without incurring charges should your plans change.

Changed your address or phone numbers recently? Please remember to inform us about any changes so that we can update our child folders. This applies to changes in existing medical conditions, allergies and food intolerances also.

Thank you for reading this newsletter. Please remember that all our recent newsletters can be found on our website along with other useful information about registration and booking, school term and holiday club dates and other useful stuff! If you have any comments or questions, or if you wish to discuss any issues then 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
- Telephone 01223 311437 during club hours.
- email Maureen at thenewcroftclub@gmail.com
- email Maureen via the contact form on our website www.thenewcroftclub.co.uk

Warm regards,

Maureen