

# The Newcroft Club

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

## NEWSLETTER: March 2022

Dear Parents,

Its Spring! Promises of warmer and brighter days ahead are held within the buds of trees and spring bulbs as they start to burst into flower throughout the school grounds and we are really enjoying being able to stay outside in daylight right until the end of our outdoor play session at the afterschool club.

**Parent surveys:** Thank you so much to all of you who took the time to respond to our Parent satisfaction survey. We had 30 responses in total and have taken your comments and constructive criticism on board as we move forward. The Results of individual questions (as a percentage) are attached separately.

We are grateful for many positive comments, in particular your confidence that your children are well looked after by competent and caring staff. Unfortunately, we are unable to solve perennial issues such as providing a dedicated quiet indoor play space (although I can promise you that it is very quiet and peaceful indoors sometimes!) Nor are we able to magic up a larger space and accommodate more children on more days so regrettably the lengthy waiting list remains. We are mindful of the hardship this causes families and we will continue to explore ways to find some resolution to this problem.

Please do contact me if you would like to follow up on anything brought to mind by the questionnaire, I am always happy to talk to you and join you, our Club staff and the children in wanting to make our club the best it can be.

**Snack choices:** Some comments concerned snack choice and quantities: We provide a different snack choice each day at the start of the session, followed by fruit/vegetables later around 5pm. We choose to provide vegetarian snacks which are in line with school food standards for out of school clubs, and all food cooked and consumed on the premises (including that brought in by children in lunchboxes) must be nut free. Our



snack menu is attached to give you an idea of the choices available to your children at afterschool club. Occasionally we add variations for example veggie hot dogs or fruit loaf, or we get the children involved and make soup or pancakes. We also try to accommodate children's requests if practical and reasonable. The latest one being a request for 'Eggy Bread'. We work together with parents to cater for dietary needs as stated on your child's registration form, and we are mindful of the 14 common allergens found in foodstuffs. Some parents choose to supply an extra snack for their child too if they are going on from us to another club and will be late home for dinner. We encourage the children to at least try the snack provided on the day, however if they really dislike it an alternative will always be available.

**Staffing and staff roles:** Our core staff and their roles and qualifications are listed on our website [www.thenewcroftclub.com](http://www.thenewcroftclub.com). Please do have a look if you are interested. The staff page of the website has a list of our roles within the club and our qualifications to date. We also have a printed poster indoors accessible to the children.

**Child Satisfaction surveys:** The children have also told us how they feel about the club, things they like, things they do not like so much, their best snacks and their favourite ways to spend their time with us. It has been an opportunity for us to make sure that everybody is clear about what to do if they feel unwell, or unhappy for any reason. It has also enabled us to canvass the children's opinions about the different play spaces and the amenities therein. The children also had an opportunity to make requests, of which there were surprisingly few and most felt we had enough of everything! I did like the suggestion of a unicycle though – have any of you tried this with your children? I would be interested to hear how easy or difficult it is to learn.... We have

shared and discussed the results of the survey with the children and taken notice (and action where possible /needed) of their feedback.

**Holiday club:** Thank you to families who have signed up for the Easter Holiday club which we will be running from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April. Spaces remain on all dates so please do let us know if you would like to book. It feels like it is coming up very fast now and it also seems very unusual this year to have the long Easter weekend at the end the holidays!

**Changed your address or phone numbers recently?** Please remember to inform us about any changes so that we can update our child folders. Please also let us know about any newly diagnosed allergies and medical conditions, new concerns or anxieties, new doctors' surgery, emergency contacts or anything else that you think we should know about when caring for your children.

**General Communications:** Please continue to inform us if your child will not be attending the club or if you have arranged for them to be collected by someone different. It is a huge help and saves a lot of time spent checking or looking

for them. As you know, the school office does not share information about absence with us because we are run separately, and they are not aware of which children come to the club on which days.

We are aware that this is the time of year when some older children start to spread their wings and want to go home by themselves. If this is relevant to you, please ask us for a 'permission slip' which will set agreed times and days if it is to be an ongoing arrangement. In this way, we hope to offer parents some security that they know where their children are and when they can be expected home. For 'one -off' arrangements, email, text, or phone permission is fine.

Thank you for reading this newsletter. As usual, a copy will be available to read on the website as well. Please don't hesitate to phone or email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards,

Maureen

mobile no. 07812 798195  
email [thenewcroftclub@gmail.com](mailto:thenewcroftclub@gmail.com)  
website [www.thenewcroftclub.co.uk](http://www.thenewcroftclub.co.uk)