

School Matters

The Fortnightly Newsletter from Newton Poppleford School

Friday 30th September 2022

A Message from Mr Pope

This week we have begun to recognise some of our pupils for their incredible efforts. I was lucky enough to spend some time having hot chocolate with some well-deserved winners. Some families will also have



noticed some Headteacher's awards on Marvellous Me which will be happening weekly. We have also started our celebration assembly again and I would like to congratulate our winners!

Over the next two weeks, we will be electing our school council and new pupil leadership groups. More information will follow but there will be a thorough and rigorous selection process. The aim being to ensure our pupils have as much say as we can give them in the running and

direction of our school.

Flu Vaccinations: Deadline on Sunday 2nd October

A reminder that all flu vaccination consents needs to be given online by midnight on Sunday 2nd October.

Please use the following link: <https://schoolimms.hcrgcaregroup.com/flu/2022/devon>

Pre-School: from Soil to Spoon

This week in pre-school we used the carrots and tomatoes we have grown in our allotment to make some tasty soup! Our first job was to pull out the carrots which was quite hard work, we pulled and pulled but ended up using shovels to dig them out! We then washed, peeled and chopped them along with tomatoes, an onion and some rather stinky garlic. Fortunately, the witch that lives down in Adventure Island let us use her cooking pot so we built a fire and enjoyed listening to the vegetables sizzle and the soup bubble. Once the soup was cooked we took it back to pre-school, whizzed it up with a blender and then sat together for a cosy autumnal snack, delicious!



www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk

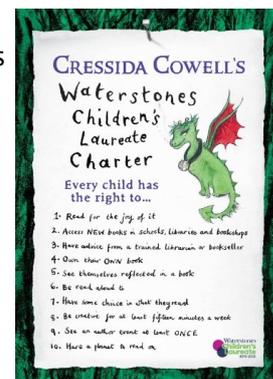
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For any Twilight after school club matters please phone the main school number.

Reading Is Magic Festival

The 'Reading is Magic Festival' has taken place this week and we have participated again this year. Every class has watched a talk from the author throughout the week. All the talks are available online to watch at a later date and it is easy to sign up on their website. Perhaps you could watch some more talks at home? Y2 watched 'My Mum is a Lioness' with Swapna Haddow and Dapo Adeola, Y3 'The Secret Museum' with Mara Menzies and Y5 'Solve Your Own Mystery' with Gareth P. Jones. The wonderful Cressida Cowell is the current children's laureate and has created her own 'Children's Charter' for every child. Her key message is that 'Reading is magic and magic is for everyone'.



Author Visit



Following on from the success of our recent visit from the wonderful Clive Pig for Reception and Key Stage One, we have Alex Wharton visiting Key Stage Two on Wednesday 19th October. He is an award-winning writer and poet and has written a book called 'Daydreams and Jellybeans'. The event is free as part of the Budleigh Salterton Literary Festival Schools Week Programme. A signed copy of his book is available to buy in advance for £6. Payments for the book are via School Gateway

and need to be done by 10/10/2022 if you would like to buy one for your child.

Year 3

Year 3 have started their science topic 'Rocks and Soils' this term. Therefore, we made our own mini compost bins. We used water bottles and milk bottles and made different layers to make a lovely habitat for worms to wriggle around in. The children had a great time digging for worms in adventure island. We found some really big ones!

Secondary school place applications open!

If your child is currently in year 6 at primary school, you'll need to start thinking now about applying for a place for them to attend their preferred secondary school, to start in September 2023.

Applications must be made before Monday 31 October 2022 and parents and guardians will be contacted with the result to their application on national offer day, 1 March 2023.

Applications can be made through our website (<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/>) or by calling our education helpline on [0345 155 1019](tel:03451551019) and asking for a paper copy of the form to be sent to you.

Finding the right school place for your child is an important decision and lots of schools are holding open events where you can find out more about what they have to offer as well as see the facilities and meet the teachers.

Help is also available for parents and carers who have questions or who need support, through our Family Information Service and through our School Admissions Team.

Remembrance Display

As it is coming up to Remembrance Day, Mrs Bradley would like to do another whole school display. Therefore, please can you bring in the bottoms of any size plastic bottles. We need 200 of them! Thank you.

Uniform

Please can you ensure that pupils wear black shoes as part of school uniform, thank you.

Demystifying SEND

Whether you are new to SEND or already on your journey. This session is aimed at parent/carers supporting their child with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who would like to find out more about how SEND support should work.

The sessions are aimed at parents starting their journey or part way through. Helping parents to understand how they can access information and which services may be available for them, highlighting the graduated response and the terminology around send in schools. e.g. Universal, targeted, specialist services terminology, working with school in a plan do, review type of approach.

The sessions aim to signpost to information and service websites that are already out there and linked to the Devon Local offer webpage.

Date: Tuesday 4th October 2022- 10.30-12.30 . To book a place, please go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/demystifying-send-special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-tickets-127732273669>

Gentle Reminders

- The school opens to the children at 08:45. If you bring your child earlier than this then please wait with them in the playground until the door opens at 08:45. KS2 children should only be entering school by the main door next to the school office unless an alternative arrangement has been put in place for your child.
- If you arrive late with your child after the gates have closed, please ring the bell and bring your child(ren) to the school office. The office staff will register your child, order their lunch and then take them down to their class.
- Please can we ask that parents do not park on the double yellow lines or zig-zagged area in front of the school at drop off or collection as this presents a danger for the children who are coming into school and causes issues blocking the road.

Thank you for your support.

Message from the PTFA

- PTFA AGM! Our AGM is on Thursday 13th October, at 7:30pm at school. Everybody welcome, come along and get involved!
- TROPIC PARTY! Save the date! Our Tropic Party PTFA fundraiser is on Friday 18th November at 7:30pm, tickets £5 to include a welcome drink. Games, prizes, raffle, and lots of fun!



WALES & WEST UTILITES change to road and footpath closures

Back Lane will be closed on 5th December 2022 between Station Road and the side of the Tennis Courts for 10 days. They are also closing Newton Poppleford and Harpford footpath between Chestnut way and Back Lane on 5th December 2022 for 10 days.

Sidmouth Science Festival 2022

Sidmouth Science Festival returns to its full capacity in October for a fun and educational week consisting of over 80 events ranging from hands-on activities to serious talks plus a visit from a rather large robot as well as much more: in fact there are events for all ages and abilities and most of them are free.

The Festival runs from Friday 7th until Sunday 16th October.

Talks run throughout the week with highlights this year including BBC's Tom Heap - 39 Ways to Save the Planet, Andy Murphy- Hydrogen Transport, Tom Whipple Science Editor at The Times and Dr Becky Smethurst explaining about Black Holes.

Saturday 8th October is Super Science Saturday when the town is taken over for the day. Free events include the schools' art exhibition on the topic of Robots, Geology in Our Lives, Met Office forecasting, Owls, tin can telephone record attempt, lots of hands-on make and take activities and much more. A full day of robot workshops is scheduled for Saturday 15th October as well as an afternoon of Climate Events when Tom Heap from BBC's 39 Ways to Save the Planet will be in attendance. On Sunday 16th it is Family Fun Day at the Norman Lockyer Observatory (admission charge) with all things astronomical, telescopes, rocket launching, Planetarium

Don't forget to enter the Design a Robot competition. For details see: <http://www.sidmouthsciencefestival.org/news/design-robot-competition>

Dates for Your Diary Up to Half-Term

Thursday 6th: Year 5 transition event

Friday 7th: year 5 swimming

Saturday 8th: Sidmouth science festival

Monday 10th: World Mental Health Day

Wednesday 12th: Flu vaccinations

Thursday 13th: Year 3 & 6 science trip

Thursday 13th: 7.30pm PTFA AGM Meeting

Friday 14th: Year 5 swimming

Wednesday 19th: Year 5/6 mixed football

Thursday 20th: PTFA Year 5 cake sale

Friday 21st: Last day of half term

Monday 31st : Inset day