

SCHOOL MATTERS

THE FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER FROM NEWTON POPPLEFORD SCHOOL

Friday 15th September 2023

A Message From Mr Pope

Dear Parents and carers,

The first week has seen the introduction of our new school day timings. I am grateful to everyone for helping and supporting this change. The first morning session in class has already allowed a more purposeful and focused session which has had a very positive impact in the educational experience of the children. Across the school, we now use this time for Early morning maths which recaps previous learning and gives the children an opportunity to practice their fluency. In the long term it will also provide an opportunity to provide some further problem-solving challenges for those pupils who may relish that opportunity.

Some parents may have seen that we have also welcomed Mrs Fawcett back to the school. This has been a fantastic for us all as Mrs Fawcett was due to leave us at the end of last year. We are extremely glad that Mrs Fawcett has agreed to stay with us as she is a wonderful part of our staff team. Her role will be across the school supporting pupils - as well as being the school's reading champion she will also be working in a pastoral capacity supporting well-being and mental health for all.

We have also launched our new approaches to personal development which enrich the PSHE curriculum and provide a clear ethos and approach for our pupils. We believe these principles will help provide a supportive and caring environment as well as educating the children to develop into well-rounded and conscientious individuals. These themes are now linked to our celebration awards and work in class and we encourage children to display these through their actions. The themes we use are outlined below. These are reinforced in our assemblies and daily practice to encourage and enthuse the children:

Learning and Growing Together – Taking every opportunity.

Integrity	Kindness	Perseverance	Belonging	Positivity	Responsibility
“Act with Integrity and honesty”	“Be Kind”	“Keep trying”	“We are all accepted”	“Maintain a growth mindset”	“Take responsibility”

We will be finalising our club offering and getting this to you for the weeks up to half term. Please look out for that communication from the school office. I will also be writing to you all regarding attendance and the current guidance and directives that the school is obliged to follow. This week, also sees our year 6 embark on their residential to Skern Lodge. The staff members accompanying them and I are looking forward to seeing them all enjoying themselves, working together and fighting their fears in all their exciting activities.

I was also pleased to welcome the chair of the parish council Susan Tribble to our school. We look forward to working in partnership for the community over the coming weeks and months.

Finally, please share far and wide that we are recruiting for teaching assistants as well as a clerk to our governing board. Our adverts are on line and on our Facebook page. We are very keen to hear from suitable applicants and would appreciate any help parents can give us in advertising these positions and spreading the word.

Best Wishes, Mr Pope

www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk

☎ 01395 568300

✉ admin@newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk

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

Pre-School

As part of their phonics this week, pre school have been learning to distinguish between different sounds using musical instruments and exploring the environment at Adventure Island where they heard helicopters and birds.



Reception Class With Their Year 5 Buddies

Reception has settled very well into school life with the help of their big buddies from Year 5. The big buddies all made a card for their little buddy which was given to them on their home visits. We are looking forward to doing lots of exciting things with our buddies over the year!



Year 1

Year 1 have been settling in really well in their new class. Year 1 have enjoyed beginning their topic of weather & seasons. Their first challenge was to be the first group to order the months of the year.





Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic, busy week settling in to class. From maths on the table to painting the Antarctica, sorting groups in Science and enriching their learning in Adventure Island we have all had a great start to the year.

Adventure Island

Over the summer we were awarded funding from the UK Community Play Fund, supported by LEGO Foundation to start using KitCamp in Adventure Island! Thanks to ChangeX too! #LearningThroughPlay Kitcamp is large scale construction that can be crawled in, climbed on, and configured to create play spaces that inspire movement, engineering and imagination. The children have had a blast exploring this amazing new resource and we can't wait to see what they create next.



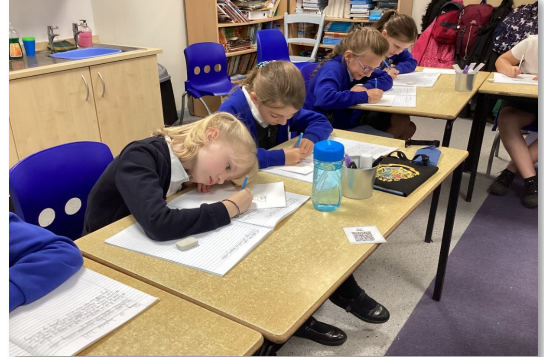
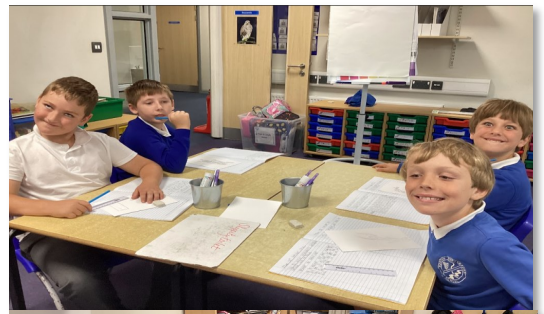
Year 3

Year Three have started learning about our topic on the Stone Age. In English, we have read 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth' and followed instructions to make our own marvellous woolly mammoths. You might notice that our woolly mammoths are a bit more colourful than you might expect!



Year 4

Year 4 busy creating their own nonsense characters based on the poem Jabberwocky.



Year 5

Year 5 have settled really well with Mrs Bradley and their new classroom. As part of a team building activity Year 5 had to work in a team to make spaghetti bonfires.

Year 6

This week in Science we spent some time learning about the Circulatory System. We conducted an experiment to replicate the way the heart pumps blood through the body. We used jam jars, straws and balloons.



Feeder Secondary School Open Days

Sidmouth College & The Kings School are both providing open days for current Year 5 & 6 pupils. Booking is essential for both open events. Once booked please let the school office know so we have a record of this, if they clash with the school day.



THE KING'S SCHOOL

OTTERY ST MARY • DEVON EX11 1RA • TEL: 01404 812982 • FAX: 01404 815685
Founded 1545 - Headteacher: Mr Rob Gammon BSc Hons PGCE NPQH



8th September 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

OPEN EVENING: Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st September 2023

We are delighted to invite you and your child to attend one of our Open Evenings which we hope will help give you an insight into the ethos and values that underpin life at The King's School.

The following arrangements are in place to try and ensure the most positive experience for all visitors:

- The evening is open to families of students currently in Years 5 and 6.
- All visitors are welcome but by appointment only. Please see the details below for instructions on how to book an appointment. Places will be limited and allocated on a first come, first served basis.
- There will be a one way system in place and we ask that visits last no more than 1 hour. This will support us in managing the flow of visitors around the site.
- The evenings will finish at 7.30pm sharp and visitors will be asked to leave the site at this time.

Booking an Appointment

Attendance at one of the Open Evenings will be by appointment only. There are starting times available for visits from 4.50pm; the last starting time available will be 6.20pm.

- You can book a place by e-mailing office@thekings.devon.sch.uk or by ringing Reception on 01404 812982 from Monday 11th September.
- Please be clear as to which night you would like to attend and an approximate time.
- Appointments will be on a first come, first served basis. The deadline for making appointments is 3.30pm on Tuesday 19th September.
- If you have not made an appointment, you will not be able to visit the school and, I'm afraid, you will most likely be turned away.
- Your booking will be confirmed by e-mail and this e-mail must be brought along on the night to confirm your appointment.

Arrival and Parking

All visitors need to enter the school site via the coach park entrance near the hospital. As we are using the coach park entrance please do not use the main school car park. You may wish to consider using the Land of Canaan Car Park in Ottery St Mary and walking to the school on the cycle/foot path. Please contact studentsupportadmin@thekings.devon.sch.uk if, due to mobility problems, you need special arrangements for parking on Open Evening.

Centre No. 54275 • General E-mail: office@thekings.devon.sch.uk • website: www.thekings.devon.sch.uk
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You will receive a prospectus and map on arrival before being directed to a short presentation from Mr Gammon, Head teacher. Please congregate outside the Canteen before your allocated starting time. You will then be asked to follow a set route around the school in order to try and avoid congestion.

Senior members of staff will also be on hand throughout the evening to answer any queries that you may have. The prospectus and other additional information about the school is also available on our website and on social media.

If you wish to find out further information prior to the Open Evening, we would encourage prospective parents and students to look at our website www.thekings.devon.sch.uk or browse the school's social media sites including Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

We very much hope to see you on the 20th or 21st September.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Garrick
Deputy Headteacher - Student Support

Centre No. 54275 • General E-mail: office@thekings.devon.sch.uk • website: www.thekings.devon.sch.uk
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Sidmouth College

believe • inspire • succeed

Open Morning
Wednesday 27th September
9:30am-11:00am

Open Evening
Wednesday 27th September
5:00pm-7:30pm

• Please arrive at the College in time for the Principal's welcome talks at 9:30am and 5pm or 6pm

• College tours and the opportunity to meet with staff and students

• Telephone: 01395 514823 for more information

Booking essential. To book a place call the College on **01395 514823**

www.sidmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk
Primley Road, Sidmouth EX10 9LG

Blue Peter Book Badge

Pupils can apply for a Blue Peter book badge. We would love for you to share with the school your child's experience of reading over the summer & a picture of your child's completed application form. This can be sent to the admin email address and may appear in the next School Matters! Please follow the link below to apply for the book badge.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/.../blue-peter-apply-for-a-book...>



COVID

With COVID cases rising, please find latest Government guidance regarding COVID. There has not been any school-specific guidance issued as of yet. However if pupils have a high temp and are too unwell for school they should not be attending. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/covid-19-symptoms-and-what-to-do/#:~:text=But%20if%20you%20or%20your,for%20less%20time%20than%20adults>

Dates for Your Diary Up to Half-Term

Monday 18th September - Friday 22nd September: Year 6 Residential

Wednesday 20th September: King's School Open Evening (appointment only)

Thursday 21st September: King's School Open Evening (appointment only)

Wednesday 27th September: Sidmouth College Open Morning & Evening (booking essential)

Thursday 28th September: Reception Class Phonics Workshop

Thursday 5th October: School Census Day

Wednesday 11th October: Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Chris Johnson (Animal Encounters) Pre-School

Thursday 12th October: Year 3 & Year 6 Trip

Thursday 19th October: Year 3 Dancing Through Charcoal

Friday 20th October: Last Day

Monday 23rd—Friday 27th October: Half Term

Monday 30th October: First Day Back For Pupils & Staff