

# School Matters

The Fortnightly Newsletter from Newton Poppleford School

## Friday 26th June 2026

### Message from Mr Pope

Dear Parents and Carers,

A hot week but a good one! This week has been a scorcher but as usual our school has been a happy, safe and supportive environment in no short part due to our amazing staff team and school community! A big thankyou to the PTFA for our classroom fans and ice lollies. They have made a big difference.

This week Mr Evans joined us from Sidmouth college and spoke to the children in Year 6 all about the upcoming transition and what to expect. It was a really lovely, personal session where the children got to meet him in person and speak more freely. A big thankyou to him for placing the importance on our children's comfort and for what has been an improved transition offering this year. As we move into next year, I am also writing to let you know about our class structure for the 2026/27 academic year. As always, our priority has been to support every child's learning, friendships and wellbeing, and I'm really pleased with the structure we have in place for September.

### Class structure for September 2026:

Reception – Mrs Raffell  
Year 1 – Mrs Hall (Mon, Tues, Weds) and Mrs Singfield (Thurs, Fri)  
Year 2 – Mrs Turner (Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs) and Mrs Morgan (Fri)  
Year 3 – Miss Clapp  
Year 4 – Mr Churchill (Mon, Tues, Fri) and Mrs Morgan (Weds, Thurs)  
Year 5 – Mrs Doyle  
Year 6 – Miss Winkler

We have a wonderful team of staff at Newton Poppleford, and I know the children will be in safe, caring and enthusiastic hands. Our teachers and teaching assistants already know the children well, and this continuity, alongside some fresh new faces, will help make the transition into next year a smooth and exciting one. If you have any specific questions or concerns about your child's class, please do not hesitate to contact the school office to arrange a conversation. I am also pleased to confirm that during the penultimate and last week of term this year Mrs Raffell will be returning to us.

[www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk](http://www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk)

01395 568300

✉ [admin@newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk)

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

Tonight, we have the school summer fete and we cannot wait to see you all there. There are some amazing events organised and a huge amount of hard work as always. Thank you to all involved. Over the next few weeks, we have lots of exciting events and things planned to end the summer term with including transition, Tribe Award (information sent out today), Art week, sports week and various trips and visits across the school. We are proud of the enrichment offer we have across the whole year but at the end of the year it really helps everyone to have an enjoyable and happy time in school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school community. We look forward to seeing you later today!

Best Wishes,

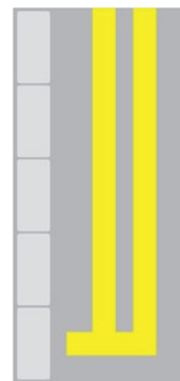
Mr Pope

### PARKING

PLEASE DO NOT PARK AND WAIT ON THE DOUBLE YELLOW LINES  
OPPOSITE THE SCHOOL GATES.

**THIS IS DANGEROUS!** Previously accidents have happened  
resulting in serious injuries outside our school.

Double yellow lines mean no waiting at any time!



**NEWTON POP PTA  
SUMMER  
FETE**

Friday 26th June 2026  
3:20-5:30pm in the school playground  
...And we need YOU to make it happen!

**PLEASE...**  
don't miss your chance to bid on some fantastic prizes in our Summer Fete Silent Auction. We already have some amazing prizes available, with more being added all the time, so keep checking back to see what's new.

Place your bids here:  
[https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/auctions/detail/auction\\_id/NewtonPopPTASummerFeteSilentAuction/show\\_id/359244#none](https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/auctions/detail/auction_id/NewtonPopPTASummerFeteSilentAuction/show_id/359244#none)

Every bid helps support our school and makes a real difference for the children - thank you for your support.

Please bring in your great condition preloved **SOFT TOY** donations for the teddy tombola. Any time, to the school office.

Please bring in your **FILLED JARS** for the jar tombola (an empty jam jar, filled with anything you like; sweets, toys, hairbands, stationery anything goes!) Drop off any time to the school office.

**VOLUNTEER!!!**  
Signup on PTA Events and help on the day

Remember, it's **NON-UNIFORM DAY** on Friday 26th June,  
in exchange, please bring a **BOTTLE** for the tombola!

## Year 5



Yesterday, our Year 5 pupils had a fantastic time at the Collaborate and Create Inspire Day! 🎵

They joined children from schools across Exeter and East Devon for a day filled with music, singing and performance.

It was a wonderful opportunity to try something new, build confidence and enjoy making music together with hundreds of other young people.

Well done to all of our Year 5 pupils, who represented Newton Poppleford brilliantly! 🌟 🎵 A big thank you to [Devon Music Education Hub](#) for organising such an inspiring event and to the [Newton Poppleford School PTFA](#) for funding the coach travel.

## Year 6



Year 6 have been busy creating props and scenery for their end-of-primary-school production.

They have shown fantastic creativity, teamwork and dedication as they bring the show to life, carefully designing and making the sets that will help tell the story on stage.



### Year3



This week in RE, Year 3 investigated the idea of the **Golden Rule** as part of our learning about how people try to make the world a better place. We discovered that many different religions and worldviews share a similar message: *treat others as you would like to be treated yourself.*

The children explored examples of the Golden Rule from Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Humanism, noticing the similarities between them. We discussed how following this simple rule could help people make kind choices, build positive relationships and create a fairer world.

The class designed some colourful posters explaining what the Golden Rule means, how it can help people in school and how it could make the world a better place and they showed a wonderful understanding of how small actions can make a big difference.



As part of our DT learning on 'Eating Seasonally' in Year 3, we have been practising our food preparation skills - in particular cutting and peeling. We learnt how to use the claw grip and the bridge to make sure we were cutting safely. You might find you have some keen helpers in the kitchen from now on!

### Reception



Our Little Popples Pre-School children have been making the most of the sunshine this week in their allotment and sensory garden.

They have been busy planting tomato plants in their allotment plot and were delighted to discover plenty of ripe strawberries ready to be picked and enjoyed as part of their snack time.

With the recent dry weather, the children have done a fantastic job remembering that the plants need watering every day. They have shown great responsibility and enthusiasm while helping to care for their growing fruits and vegetables.



## Healthy Eating in school

The whole School has been learning about healthy eating this week



## Year 4



Year 4 have been developing their fine motor skills within Adventure Island, as well as thinking about complementary colours, when designing and creating friendship bracelets

## Year 2

Year 2 recently visited Sidmouth Beach as Geography fieldworkers to help answer their enquiry question: How much rubbish is there on Sidmouth Beach?

Despite only being able to spend 10 minutes litter picking due to the hot weather, the children collected an incredible 94 pieces of rubbish! Their findings included a plastic dummy, coffee cup lids, children's plastic toys and even some very long metal nails.

The data they collected will help support their enquiry back in the classroom as they learn more about the impact of litter on our environment.

After their fieldwork, the children enjoyed spending time in the shade of the gardens, playing games and having fun with their friends.





## Year 1

Year 1 had a fantastic day on their trip to the Golden Hind in Brixham. The Golden Hind is a full-size replica of the famous ship sailed by Sir Francis Drake during his voyage around the world in the 16th century, giving the children a wonderful opportunity to experience a piece of maritime history first hand.

They also enjoyed a visit to the RNLI Torbay, where they learned about water safety and the important work carried out by the volunteer lifeboat crews.

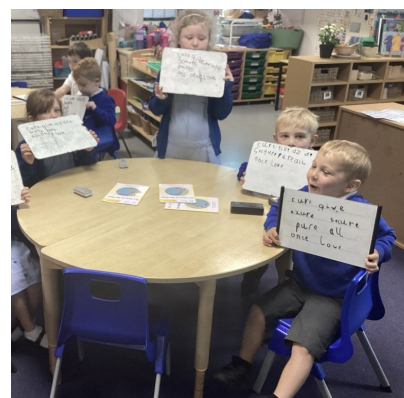
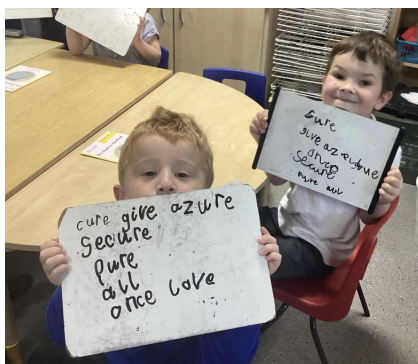
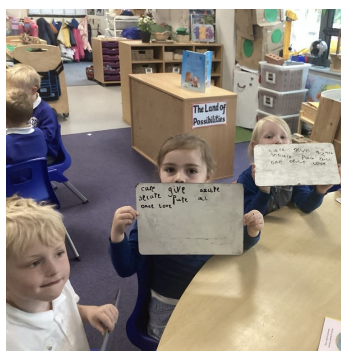
The children were a credit to the school throughout the day, showing excellent behaviour,



## Reception

Last week, Reception Class were learning the trigraph 'ure'. It's a very tricky one, but they rose to the challenge and worked incredibly hard.

We were so impressed with the beautiful writing they produced and the perseverance they showed while practising this new sound.





## SUMMER TERM 2

 Summer Quiz Night

**£0**  
extra cost to anyone



## Dates for the Diary

| Dates for the Diary   |                                                                |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                       |                                                                |
| 29/06/2026            | Year 1 Swimming Lessons (5 of 6)                               |
|                       |                                                                |
| 01/07/2026            | Transition Day                                                 |
|                       | Sidmouth college Event Year 5 and 6 ( Selected Children only)  |
| 02/07/2026            | Westcountry River Trust in school Year 4 and 3                 |
|                       | Pre School mini Olympics                                       |
| 03/07/2026            | KS2 Author Visit                                               |
|                       | Selected children - Budleigh Music Festival                    |
| 06/07/2026            | Year 1 Swimming Lessons (6 of 6)                               |
| 06/07/2026-10/07/2026 | Sports Week                                                    |
| 08/07/2026            | Sports Day - weather dependant - KS1 and Reception AM , KS2 PM |
| 10/07/2026            | Year 6 Balsalm bashing                                         |
|                       | Year 1 Walk                                                    |
| 13/07/2026-17/07/2026 | Art Week                                                       |
| 15/07/2026            | Year 6 Production                                              |
| 16/07/2026            | Reception and Pre school Outing                                |
| 21/07/2026            | Last Day of Summer Term                                        |

**ART WEEK**  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

We are delighted to announce that we have an exciting **Art Week** planned for the children!

Throughout the week, the children will take part in a range of creative activities and will be working alongside a **visiting artist** to create a special piece of artwork for the outside of the school building.

Each child will create their own **sketchbook** and fill it with a variety of activities, artist studies and creative ideas developed over the course of the week.

**WE ARE COLLECTING RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK!**

If you have any of the following items that you no longer need, we would be very grateful to make use of them during our **Art Week**:

- Different types of paper for our sketchbooks, such as wallpaper, local newspapers, maps, or any textured or coloured paper.
- Chalk pastels
- Plasticine

Thank you in advance for any donations - they will help to make the children's creative experiences even more exciting and varied!

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

To celebrate their hard work, we would like to invite parents and carers to join us

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

to view the wonderful artwork created by the children and our visiting artist.

**3:00pm - 3:30pm**

The school will be open from 3:00pm to 3:30pm.

During this time, you are invited to collect your child from their classroom and enjoy the opportunity to visit their classroom gallery, where they will proudly share the artwork they have created throughout the week.

We are very much looking forward to a fantastic week of creativity and hope you will be able to join us in celebrating the children's achievements!

**THANK YOU!**