

SCHOOL MATTERS

THE FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER FROM NEWTON POPPLEFORD SCHOOL

Friday 8th December 2023

A Message From Mr Pope

Dear Parents/Carers,

As this is the last Newsletter of this calendar year, we feel it is always important to recognise and reflect on the achievements that our pupils, school community and staff have made across the term. We are in the Christmas week of performances and celebrations. The Nativity performances and Carol concerts have been a great success and the children performed them brilliantly. We very much hope that you have enjoyed them and I would like to extend my thanks to all the staff team here including the office and kitchen staff who make such an effort to organise, arrange, liaise and support the children to enable us to do this.

I would also like to extend a thank you to the PTFA. The winter fair was truly exceptional and if you had the opportunity to visit Santa's grotto it was a fantastic Christmas experience. The PTFA give up so much of their own time, energy and commitment to support us we are very grateful. The experiences that your support and attendance at these events offer the children across the curriculum are really beneficial. Similarly, thank you again to the Reverend Ward, his team and our parent community for enabling us to attend and experience Christingle as a school.

Next week, on Tuesday and Wednesday the children in years 1-6 will be enjoying some Intra-school competition and further PE enrichment days. We aim to hold this PE enrichment half termly and appreciate your understanding in sending the children in PE kit on those days. We also have our curriculum review and recap sessions between 09am and 10:30am on those days. The reason for this is laid out for you in a little more detail as it relates to our approach to ensure the children remember their learning over the long term. This will be a focus for us in Spring

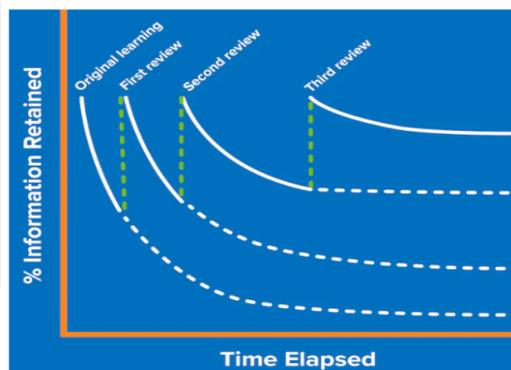
As always, we want you to know and be aware of what pupils in the school are learning and what we are Next term our focus will be on retrieval practice and how we encourage pupils to "know more, and remember more." This is based on research around the Ebbinghaus forgetting curve. In classrooms this is made a reality through activities and games that help children to do this - you may find

children talking more about Kahoot quizzes, pyramids, cops and robbers or snakes and ladders to name but a few.

The idea behind this is very much common sense.

Put simply:

The pupils will remember more of the information they have learnt if they revisit it at regular periods. By recalling and revisiting the information they reinforce it in their long term memory.



We hope you all have a wonderful last week at school as we warm up for Christmas and will be in touch again before the end of term.
Best Wishes,
Mr Pope

www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk

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

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Important Information

SEND: Devon Offers Autism and Us parent workshops.

Autism and Us Spring 2024 places now available to book

Devon's popular Autism and Us free programme for parent-carers returns in the new year, with a combination of four-week courses and one-off workshops.

The Autism and Us programme offers support for families of children and young people who have an autism diagnosis or who are waiting for one. It is designed for parent/carers of primary and secondary school age children in Devon. It gives families an opportunity to develop their understanding of autism, looks at practical solutions to managing and supporting children and young people's needs.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/education-and-families/autism-and-us-spring-2024-places-now-available-to-book/>

Attendance:

The schools attendance has significantly dropped in the last week. Please ensure that children who can attend do attend in the last weeks of term. There are important curriculum things happening that the children need to experience to maximise their success at school!



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Pre-School

Pre-School enjoyed a lovely Autumn walk to Farthings. We liked looking at the chickens and the vegetables that had grown. Thank you to Anna and Doug for having us!



Christingle Service

On Monday 4th December the whole school took part in a Christingle Service at St Luke's Church. It was a beautiful service. Year 5 & 6 lit candles and Years 2, 3 and 4 were given tea light candles whilst in the church. A big thank you Reverend Mark Ward for leading the service.



Christmas Bauble Competition

The art leaders have been busy judging the Christmas bauble competition that they held in school. They were amazed at all the different artistic styles and talent from all! The winners will be announced in assembly next week.



Year 5 Art Workshop

Last week Year 5 visited Sidmouth College for an Art Workshop. They were given the task to create Gargoyles. Gargoyles are stone creatures carved into buildings that serve as very ornate gutters, siphoning water from the building. They are thought to warn off harmful spirits. Pupils had to design their Gargoyles on paper before creating them out of clay.

Adventure Island

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Sidmouth Lions Club for the generous donation they made back in the summer to support our campfire cooking in Adventure Island. So far, we have purchased campfire cooking utensils and materials to create a second shelter behind Finley's Classroom that we use to prepare foods. This term different classes have cooked a range of snacks including baked apples with custard and flatbread. Some of us have also enjoyed a warm hot chocolate on those chillier sessions! Thanks again to Sidmouth Lions Club who will be at the Cannon Car Park this Friday 8th December between 5:30pm -7:30pm with Santa's sleigh!



Jay's Aim

Last week Jay's Aim came in to teach Year 5 & 6 pupils CPR & AED training. The pupils learnt so much from this really beneficial training. We would like to thank the team at Jay's Aim for coming into to deliver this vital training to our pupils!



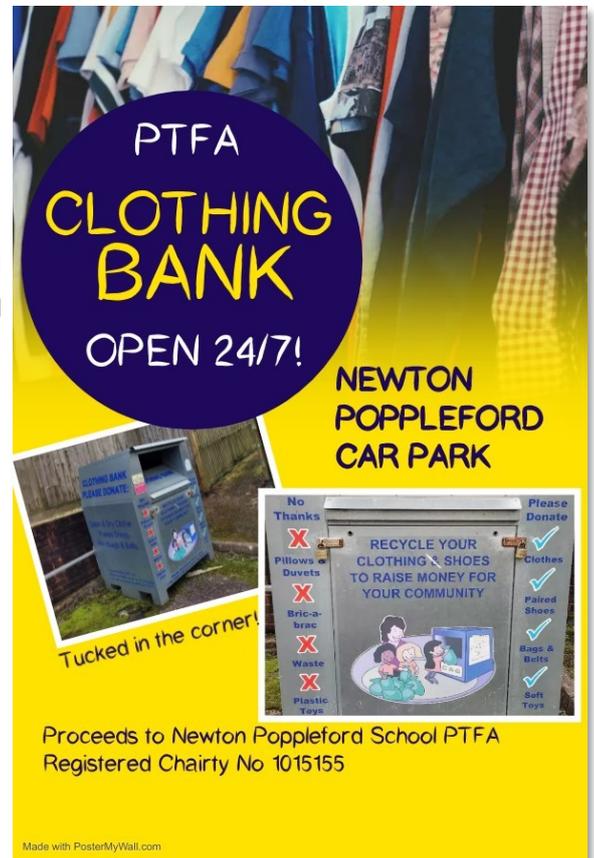
PTFA

Christmas Fair! Thank you so much to everyone who came along and supported the PTFA Christmas Fair at the weekend, we hope you had as much fun as we did! Thank you to all the volunteers and organisers who worked so hard in advance and on the day to create this event, and special thanks to Chief Elf Henry Odbert, who was responsible for creating the most magical grotto outside of the North Pole!

Clothing Bank! Our clothing bank is back! The PTFA receives money for every kilo of clothing collected, everything is sorted locally and shipped abroad to be resold or reused, great for the planet and good for the PTFA. It is located in the corner of the public car park on School Lane.

Uniform Shop! Have a browse in the PTFA pre-loved uniform shop any time! Located in the shed next to the bike shed, access available at any time, we are operating an honesty system, pay a donation via the School Gateway payment system. Donations of good quality pre-loved uniform welcome any time, please leave in the shed and we will sort it ready for sale!

Online Shopping! Shopping online over the festive period or perhaps the January sales? Don't forget to use <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> as your shopping portal and select the PTFA as your chosen charity for effortless gifting to the PTFA while you shop!



Menu Change 1st Day Back



Exmouth Food Bank



EXMOUTH FOOD BANK

OPENING TIMES OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD



During the festive period we will be open to clients on the following days:

- **Tuesday 19 December 2023:** 13:30 to 15:00
- **Friday 22 December 2023:** 13:30 to 15:00
- **Friday 29 December 2023:** 13.30 to 15:00

◇ Please note that we will be closed on Tuesday 26th December.

In the New Year we will be open as usual on Tuesday 2 January and Friday 5 January 2024

If you need to get in touch, please telephone 07787 758511 or 07749 322291. Phones will be monitored throughout Christmas and the New Year.



Welcome to the December 2023 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents and Carers

Remember—Set up devices!

With Christmas almost upon us, Scomis would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some important safety points to consider if your child is likely to receive a:

- SMART device (TV, Speaker—Alexa, Google)
- new mobile phone (Android/iPhone)
- games console
- tablet PC or laptop

Consider the following tips:

- Make sure the device is working correctly
- Charge it up
- Set up the device and try it before you wrap it up
- Check the parental controls
- Check the safety settings
- Ensure filtering is applied to your home's Wi-Fi

Need help with the above points. Check advice published on the following websites:

Internet Matters [Parental controls](#) Step by step guides for Broadband, Smartphones, Social Media, Games Consoles. View and download their [checklist](#).

Parentzone [Setting up new technology](#) Access Parentzone's library of resources [here](#). Read their complete guide to setting up [SMART toys and speakers](#).

Childnet review advice on [Screen Time](#) and boundaries.

Find out what the 'experts' and 'parents' say. Find out what children and young people think

UK Safer Internet Centre's [Parent Guide](#) Advice on using:

[SMART speakers safely](#) includes setting up parental controls [SMART TVs](#) includes how to use safely and parental controls [Games Consoles](#) includes top tips to stay safe - **think about the location of the game console!**

NSPCC Find out all about [CHAT Apps](#) and how to keep your child safe when using:

WhatsApp; KiK; Telegram; Omegle;

Gaming Chats; Chat Rooms; [Live Streaming and Video Apps](#)

Try the NSPCC's [Online Safety quiz](#)

STOP PRESS! In this newsletter, we have also included a link to Netflix's

[Help Centre for setting up Parental Controls](#)

[Learn how to:](#)

[Create a profile for kids](#)

[Set profile maturity ratings or block titles](#)

[Turn autoplay previews on or off](#)

[Access viewing history for a profile](#)

Remember — Talk to your child about Online Safety!

Do you know the key issues?

Visit the following websites to find out:

Parentzone – [Guides for parents](#) review digital guides, advice and videos on social media including:

[Cyber Security](#), [Virtual Reality](#), [Loot Boxes](#) and much more

CommonSense Media – [Age based media reviews](#) for families, including Games, Apps, Films and TV, books.

ThinkUKnow - [Advice on keeping your under 5 safe](#)

Learn about [Jessie & Friends](#)—advice for 4-7 year olds.

Watch the advice [films for 8-10 year olds](#)

Review the [advice for 11-18 year olds](#)

Get Safe Online advice on how to [protect yourself](#), your family, your finances and devices online during the festive season.

Reminder—Be a good digital parent!

- Keep your passwords safe and do not share them
- Schedule notifications to turn off for certain times of the day
- Think about what you are sharing online. Are you [sharing](#) too much and putting your kids in danger?
- Give practical tips for dealing with unwanted content, conduct or contact
- Show your child how to take screen shots
- Reassure your child that they can talk to you or another trusted adult to ask for help

Need help? Visit the following websites for more guidance:

Vodafone's [Digital Parenting](#) Helping your family live a happy and safe digital life

Childnet's Parent and Carers [Toolkit](#). Access to resources

offering practical tips on keeping your

child safe online, including:

[Parents and Carers Resource Sheet](#)

UK Safer Internet Centre's

[Advice on key online issues](#) includes guidance on how to report, when to report, where to report.

Internet Matters

[Helping parents keep their children safe online](#) find out about trending topics such as [market place Apps like Temu](#).



Online Safety resources for children with SEND

NSPCC partnering with [Ambitious about Autism](#), have created online safety tips, advice and activities for parents and carers of children with SEND, including children with dyslexia, autism and speech and language difficulties.

Access resources listed below:

[Sharing personal details](#)

[Friendships online](#)

[One-page profile](#)

[Cyberbullying for children with SEND visual article](#)

[Talking to people online for children with SEND visual article](#)



Remember — Many devices now connect to the Internet!

- Internet connected devices can send and receive data
- Examples of internet connected devices include:
 - Doorbells, CCTV, Toys, robots, drones and much more
- If not set up properly, the risks include being hacked:
- Software developers or hackers may be connected to your device without your knowledge
- Baby monitors, children's tablets, drone toys, can be hacked and used by people outside of your home.

Find out how to keep you and your family safe and visit the [NSPCC's website](#)

HELP IN THE HOLIDAYS!

Don't forget! advice is just a phone call away from the [NSPCC](#) helpline 0808 800 5000
Childline 0800 1111

Websites to check:
[Childnet's Parent and Carer's Toolkit](#)

[ThinkUKnow's advice for Parents](#)

Have a happy safe Christmas!



SCOMIS
Your ICT Partner

Dates for Your Diary Until February Half Term

Monday 11th December:	KS1 Church Visit
Tuesday 12th December:	Whole School PE Day
Wednesday 13th December:	Christmas Lunch Year 3 Multi Skills Event
Thursday 14th December:	Christmas Singalong With Brass Band
Friday 15th December:	Last Day Of Term Menu Change—Party Food!
Tuesday 2nd January:	Inset Day
Wednesday 3rd January:	First Day Back For Pupils
Monday 8th January:	Year 3 Mosque Trip
Thursday 18th January:	Year 4 PTFA Cake Sale Year 5 Workshop Sidmouth College
Friday 19th January:	Year 6 National Archives Session
Tuesday 30th January:	Sporty Stars Glow In The Dark Dodgeball
Friday 2nd February:	Year 2 Great Fire Of London Online Session
Monday 5th February:	Chinese New Year Assembly
Tuesday 6th February:	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 7th February:	Year 5 Science Workshop Sidmouth College
Friday 9th February:	Last Day Of Term
Monday 19th February:	First Day Back For All Staff & Pupils