

School Matters

The Fortnightly Newsletter from Newton Poppleford School

Friday 17th January 2025

Message from Mr Pope

Dear Parents and carers,

Firstly, Happy New Year to everyone in our school community. As the days are beginning to get longer and we have had a bit of sunshine, it has felt a very bright start to our school term. The children have come back in a very positive way and their attitudes and commitment to learning have been brilliant.

You should now have your new curriculum overviews and access to the spring term spellings for your year group. Please could we ask that you practice these with your children frequently. The link below will navigate you to that area of the website and you select the relevant link from the class pages.

<https://www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk/web/curriculum/655193>

Over the past two weeks our enrichment activities have begun with some interesting and engaging visits for many of the children. We started our term with a fantastic educational experience all about Hinduism; Jays Aim provided a session of CPR and how to use a defibrillator and we were lucky enough to have a visit from Tomas Williams the Senior Education and Engagement Officer for UK parliament who held an assembly for all the children. In fact, first aid has been a bit of a theme as many staff members have also had Paediatric First Aid and Emergency First Aid training to ensure that as a school we more than meet our requirements by a significant margin. We also had a Health and safety review on Wednesday which we passed with flying colours. I am very grateful to our office and admin team for all their hard work. A special mention to Mrs Nash who is so competent and works tirelessly behind the scenes. She is an incredible asset to our school community and is worthy of much praise and gratitude for her efforts for the children and staff here.

The PTFA fundraising for our play equipment is now ramping up – we have had visitors to the school providing us with quotes for this equipment and although an ambitious target for us to hit we are excited about what we might be able to achieve for the children. Next week is 'Break the Rules Day' so watch this space for more details.

We continue to look at developing oracy as our school improvement focus across the year and all classrooms are now using Talk Tactics in their daily teaching and learning to elevate the quality of talk in the classrooms. This term we will be explicitly teaching the children how to speak and present as well as the introduction and use of higher-level vocabulary in the classroom.

This term we are looking at providing more opportunities for you to come in and share some learning opportunities with the children. We will be timetabling 'rock up and read' slots with each class as well as some maths sessions. Currently, we envisage these being 15 minute sessions at the start or end of the school day to enable more parents to attend. We are also planning on having a fun run in the last week of term on the afternoon of Monday the 10th February. This is weather dependent and more details will follow but if you would like to join and run with us please feel free to come along.

www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk

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

Message from Mr Pope continued.....

At this time of year there are lots of children who will start to get coughs and colds and feel a bit under the weather. If you would like more information when to send them in and when to keep them off please see below. As a general rule, we know that mild coughs and colds happen and children can be sent in when they develop these.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/#:~:text=If%20your%20child%20has%20mild,have%20a%20high%20temperature>

Many Thanks as always for your continued support as we look forwards to the exciting term and year ahead as we enter 2025.

Kind regards

Mr Pope

Year 3 Spellings from the curriculum overview



Learning & growing together,
taking every opportunity.

RESPECT · ADVENTURE · ACHIEVE

Curriculum Overview: Year 3 Spring 2:

Spellings for the half term

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
automatic	meet	ache	admiration	be	eight
autopilot	meat	character	adoration	bee	eight
autobiography	hear	chemist	elevation	blew	enough
autograph	here	chemistry	fixation	blue	exercise
automobil	knot	chorus	inflammation	one	experience
superman	not	echo	information	won	experiment
superior		monarch	preparation	son	extreme
supernatural		scheme	restoration	sun	famous
superstar		school	sensation	to	favourite
superficial				too	February
				two	

Suggested texts to read at home with your children :

'Stone Girl Bone Girl'

By Laurence Anholt

Discover the story of Mary Anning, the world's best-known fossil hunter.

As a baby, Mary was struck by lightning, then as a little girl she found a fossilised sea monster, the most important pre-historic discovery of its time. This spectacular tale of a little girl who dared to be different and who followed her dreams will inspire young children.

Beautiful illustrations and narrative text help children to learn how Mary discovered new fossils – and how her observations rocked the natural history world. Be inspired by Mary's work as a woman in the field of science – especially as her achievements weren't recognised until after her death.



'The Pebble in my Pocket'

By Meredith Hooper

Where do pebbles come from? How were they made? This book tells the story of a pebble, from its origins in a fiery volcano 480 million years ago to a busy, modern landscape. Readers follow the processes of rock formation and erosion that create new pebbles all over the world.

A very popular non-fiction text that has detailed and engaging illustrations. This book tells the story of a pebble, from its origins in a fiery volcano 480 million years ago to a busy, modern landscape. Topics include rock formation



SEND

Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision (OAIP) describes the inclusive provision and practice that all Devon schools, early years, and post 16 settings provide for all children and young people, including those with SEND, from within their own resources. This will support all children and young people to attend, engage and thrive in their educational setting. It describes approaches, provision and practice that is 'helpful to all, harmful to none and crucial for some' At Newton Popleford Primary School we follow these principles in our practice.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/support-schools-settings/ordinarily-available-inclusive-provision/>

Pre-School



Pre-School have been using their listening ears during some activities such as guess the instrument, listening to environmental sounds at Adventure Island and had great fun listening to each others' recorded voices to see if they could guess which friend it was.

Art Competition

The art leaders had a challenging time choosing a winner for their competition at the end of the last term with so many fantastic entries. The competition set by our art leaders was based on Van Gogh's 'Poppy fields' and the children entered their artwork inspired by the artist. They chose Annie from Year 2 for her creative poppy collage and MJ from Year 3 for his beautiful painting of a poppy field.



Year 4



Last week, Years 4 & 6 had a visitor - Muhunthiny - in class to talk to them about Hinduism. She was very informative and engaging about her life as a Hindu and answered all the children's extensive questions. Children got to dress up in Hindu clothing, look at Hindu religious artefacts and do some meditation to understand why and how Hindu's do this. Muhunthiny also sent an email to the school commenting on how well behaved and interested the children were in her session.

Year 6

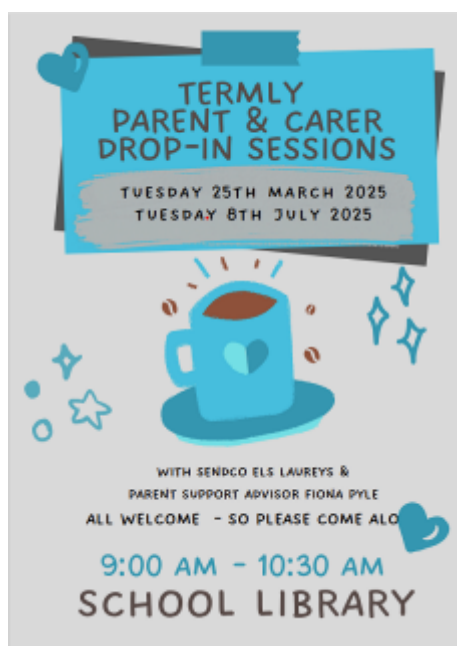
Photos of year 6 with Jay's Aim on CPR and defibrillator training



Year 5 and 6 Sporting Activities



Sidmouth College Sports teacher, Mr Thompson, lead an after-school session for our Year 5 and 6 children. They learnt the rules of the game, practiced their hand eye co-ordination, and finished with some doubles matches. The children were complimented on their fantastic behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the session.



PIANO

We have had a very kind offer of a piano , if anyone is interested in it , please get in touch with the school office and we can put you in touch with the current owner.



PTFA

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a fantastic break. The PTFA has an exciting Spring Term planned and is looking forward to raising more funds for our wonderful school. Here are some key dates to add to your diary:

Friday 24th January- Break the rules day
Thursday 30th January- Year 3 cake sale
Friday 7th February- Quiz Night
School disco Wednesday 12th February
Thursday 27th February- Year 2 cake sale
All week from 17th March- Book Fair
Thursday 27th March- Year 1 cake sale
Thursday 3rd April- Easter Egg Hunt



Dates for the Diary

DATES FOR THE DIARY

7th January 2025	First day of Spring term—Pupils Return to School Westcountry Music For School restarts
22nd January	Rescheduled year 3 & 4 Multiskills - selected children
24th January	PTFA Break the Rules Day
27th January	Yr3 Trip Year 6 Football - Selected children only
29th January	Change of menu - Chinese New Year
30th January	Clive Pig Story Telling rec, Year 1 & 2 PTFA Year 3 Cake Sale Change of Menu - Roast Dinner
31st January	Y3 and Yr5 Trip
7th February	PTFA Quiz night PTFA School Disco Date to be confirmed
10th February	Year 5 Transition Event PFTA School disco Pre-school to year 6
17-21st Febraury	Half Term
24th Febraury	Children back to school Year 3 Swimming (1 of 6)
27th Febraury	Year 2 Cake sale
3rd March	Year 3 Swimming (2 of 6)
10th March	Year 3 Swimming (3 of 6)
17th - 21st March	PTFA School Book Fair
17th March	Year 3 Swimming (4 of 6)
24th March	Year 3 Swimming (5 of 6)
27th March	Year 1 Cake sale
31st March	Year 3 Swimming (6 of 6)
3rd April	PTFA Easter Egg Hunt