

SCHOOL MATTERS

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FROM NEWTON POPPLEFORD SCHOOL

FRIDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2021

From the Headteacher

Christmas activities are being prepared and rehearsed! We are looking forward to the Book Fair, the Christmas Fair, various Christmas performances, Christmas Jumper day and Christmas Dinner! Please check your school emails and this newsletter for more details and ticket information.

Recruitment for the new Headteacher is progressing. Candidates will be in for school interviews next week. Look out for further updates.



Book Fair

The School Book Fair is open next week! Come and browse the brand new books in the hall after school every day (except Wednesday) from the 29th November! Or catch the Book Fair at the Christmas Fair next Saturday! All books sold earn points for the school to spend on new books for the library!

Reading Shed

Just a little reminder, to please put any books that have been read into the Year One, Year Two or Key Stage Two boxes. We appreciate that some parents have been putting them away themselves, but it is easier if you put them into the correct box and let staff do it, as the order of the books is becoming rather muddled. Thank you very much for your continued support with our new reading system.

Glass Jars

In preparation for the KS2 Christmas Singing Performances, we would like to decorate glass jars next week in school. So that all children in KS2 can have a decorated glass jar, we are still asking for donations. Please drop off your jars (without lids) to the School Office as soon as you can. It would be great if you could also remove the labels beforehand.



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.

From the PTFA Christmas Fair

Our winter wonderland is all set for Saturday 4th December! If you can help run a stall on the day, please get in touch with Teri 07909 798441 Thank you!



Christmas Jumper Swap

Did you know 12 million Christmas jumpers are bought every year in the UK? And 40% are never worn again? Bring your preloved Christmas jumpers into school next week and come and browse the stall at the Fair to get a bargain jumper for this year!

Christmas Hampers

Our famous festive raffle is back! Please send in your offerings for the hamper appeal to your class teacher next week. Here is the list of items we are requesting, but you can bring anything from the list!

Preschool - Arts and crafts (kits/materials)

Reception - Jams, marmalades, chutneys
(no homemade please!)

Year 1 - Chocolates, sweets, confectionary

Year 2 - Bottles

Year 3 - Biscuits, crackers, festive foods (in date please!)

Year 4 - Toiletries, smellies

Year 5 - Chocolates, sweets, confectionary

Year 6 - Bottles



Raise money for the school while doing your Christmas online shopping! The school is now signed up to two shopping portals that will donate to the school for FREE every time you shop with them. It takes seconds to sign up to by following the links below.



Easyfundraising - the site includes over 4000 shops (including ebay, Argos, ASOS, Etsy and M&S) and sites (including insurance, mobile, utilities and travel) that will donate to the school. It's really easy, just use the Easyfundraising portal or app every time you shop: <http://bit.ly/2MXWSqJ>.

smile.amazon.co.uk

Amazon Smile - will donate with qualifying purchases through the Amazon Smile website: <https://amzn.to/2Ls2vNu>.

Christmas Dates



Preschool - Our First Nativity is on **Tuesday, 7th & Wednesday, 8th December** both at 11:00 AM at St Luke's Church.

Reception & Key Stage I - Born in a Barn on **Wednesday, 8th & Thursday, 9th December** both at 2:00 PM in the School Hall. *(Please complete the Google form and pay via School Gateway and your tickets will be sent home)*



Key Stage 2 - Carol Service on **Monday, 6th & Tuesday, 7th December** both at 6:00 PM in the School Hall. *(Details of tickets to follow.)*

Christmas Jumper Day is on **Friday, 10th December.**



The children's **Christmas Lunch** is on **Tuesday, 14th December** and the party day is on **Friday, 17th December**, the last day of term.



Christmas Dinner

We will be having our School Christmas dinner on Tuesday 14th December.

Due to the large number of children having dinner on this day, dinners must be pre-ordered by 30th November by the completion of a Google form (link below).

Please complete this form even if your child does not require a lunch that day.

The Google form link is as follows: <https://forms.gle/rsuXHWLc6gB35zYL6>

If you are unable to complete the form yourself, please phone, email or pop into the school office and they will complete the form for you.



Word Millionaire

Our Accelerated Reading Whole School word count so far this year is 11,784,354

This week's National Online Safety guide is to **Cryptocurrency**. In this guide you can understand its risks and how it can be explored and used safely in online games, social media and other platforms.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about CRYPTOCURRENCY

What is cryptocurrency?

Cryptocurrency is software enabling the exchange and storage of digital 'coins' representing financial value. To monitor who owns which coins, platforms save an online record of every transaction, called a 'ledger' or 'blockchain'. This is secured by cryptography: a set of methods for protecting sensitive information. Bitcoin, released in 2009, was the first cryptocurrency; other platforms have since launched such as Ethereum, Tezos and Filecoin. As cryptocurrency becomes a more established part of digital life, young people are bound to encounter it – so it's vital that trusted adults understand its risks, and how it can be explored and used safely.

COMPLEX TECHNOLOGY

Like any new software, cryptocurrency comes with bugs, flaws and limitations. Broadly, it hasn't yet evolved to be as user friendly as web browsing or social media. Using it safely means spending time learning about the complicated technology it uses. We would strongly suggest anyone considering getting involved in cryptocurrency should consult specialised tutorials to learn about it properly in advance.

WIDESPREAD EXAMPLES

Cryptocurrency software for smartphones is often free to download from app stores. Emails with links to cryptocurrency services can land in any inbox. Cryptocurrency is also advertised on search engines, on social media and in online games (for example to buy add-ons which help players level up). It can't be purchased easily without a credit card or bank account, but young people will still be exposed to cryptocurrency in various settings.

CHANCE OF SCAMS

Cryptocurrency provides another opportunity for scammers to extract personal data and money from unwary web users. Unlike credit card transactions or wire transfers, a bank can't reverse cryptocurrency transactions after a suspected fraud – making it an appealing channel for online extortion. These transactions do leave evidence in the blockchain, however, which means that cryptocurrency scammers can and do get caught.

AVOID IF UNSURE

In the UK, cryptocurrency is considered risky, because users aren't well protected if something goes wrong. Most cryptocurrencies use software developed by decentralised communities, so there's no customer service and no support if your funds get stolen or you lose access to your mobile cryptocurrency wallet. Unless you understand cryptocurrency, it's probably best not to use it. After all, if you couldn't comprehend the highway code, it wouldn't be safe for you to drive.

CHECK CREDENTIALS

Buying cryptocurrency for the first time involves wiring funds from your bank to a cryptocurrency exchange – a business that converts your money into cryptocurrency. They can also store cryptocurrency for you, though this could present a security risk. Cryptocurrency businesses in the UK must now comply with money laundering regulations: the Financial Conduct Authority's website has a list of all business that are approved, and it's best to avoid dealing with any that aren't.

Meet Our Expert

JP Vergne is an educator and associate professor at University College London's School of Management. His award-winning research on technology and organisation has been published in leading academic journals as well as in two books. JP is also a speaker and advises on startups. He tweets at @PirateOrg.



BEING LOCKED OUT

If you forget your online banking password, you can reset it by proving your identity in another way. In the world of 'crypto', however, the private key to access your funds can't be reset. Cryptocurrency operates without intermediaries like banks – so no-one stores a copy of users' private keys. This has security benefits, but also presents the huge risk of permanently losing access to your account. Learn how to store private keys securely before purchasing any significant amounts of cryptocurrency.

RISKY INVESTMENT

Prices can be very volatile, so cryptocurrencies are considered high-risk investments. If you might need your savings soon, don't hold them in cryptocurrency as their value could drop suddenly and sharply. Sometimes, cryptocurrency may be a profitable investment – but note that any gains are taxable. You may even have to pay tax when exchanging one cryptocurrency for another if the currency you're exchanging is priced higher than it was when you bought it.

Advice for Parents & Carers

EXPECT EXPOSURE

If your child plays online games that involve some form of virtual currency, and has access to some kind of payment method, they may find themselves in a position to buy and use cryptocurrency. There's probably no immediate danger, but discussing the potential risks with them could be useful. If your child is old enough to understand the concepts of spending and saving or to grasp the basics of programming, then they're old enough to learn about cryptocurrency.

STAY CAUTIOUS, STAY INFORMED

Approach cryptocurrency with caution as well as curiosity. Don't click on links in unexpected emails referring to cryptocurrency and beware of promotions promising free cryptocurrency in exchange for personal information. Avoid mentioning on social media that you own cryptocurrency, as this can attract scammers. Stay informed of potential new risks and regulations by regularly checking specialised sources (such as CoinDesk).



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 24.11.2021

NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday