

# School Matters

The Fortnightly Newsletter from Newton Poppleford School

## Friday 5th July 2024

### A Message From Mr Pope

Dear Parents and carers,

We have had such a great two weeks in school with our School Summer Fete and transition days! The children have really enjoyed it.

The summer fete was amazing as always! Thankyou for everyone for coming and enjoying what is always a lovely, well organised and joyful event. Many thanks to every member of the PTFA who has been involved in this event but also the many others in our community who ran stalls, gave donations or simply attended to be part of it. A special mention to Teri, the chair of the PTFA for organising the event. Each year the maypole dance and crowing of the fete King and Queen is a highlight of the event and thanks go to Mrs Raffell and Carmen for passing on this wonderful and important tradition that has been happening in our community for many, many decades if not over a century.

The school's transition days have enabled the classes to meet and get to know their new teachers. These transitions are extremely important as we recognise that whilst many children will be really excited there may also be an element of nerves and trepidation as they enter their new school year. The teachers put an emphasis on both getting to know the children and ensuring an understanding of their attainment and progression. The teachers want to celebrate each child. To help with this we have a robust handover where teachers are able to ensure that the high expectations we have of children in the school are transferred from teacher to teacher. This year we have extended and invested in these transition meetings with an extra day of dedicated time to meet with the SENDCO and additional staff meeting time for teachers to work together.

Over the last two weeks, we have also held a pupil voice and the governors' parent voice survey which have been presented to our governing board. These along with an ongoing staff survey are really important to us to gain feedback to enable us to move forward – both positive and where feedback given is constructive. Thank you for those that took the time to complete it. The school is very proud that 94% of you would recommend us which is 10% higher than the national benchmark. We will always strive to improve this through our efforts with the children.

This half term our curriculum revolves around climate issues and how we can teach the children to look after the environment around us. Children across the school have taken part in a variety of activities including biodiversity fieldwork, balsam bashing and a variety of climate workshops. The school is very hopeful that all the work this year will lead to the Eco Green flag Award we are currently applying for.

An important date to note is below. My thanks to teachers who spend a significant amount of time preparing these and the ongoing work each and every day to assess, support and strive to provide an excellent education.

Reports will be out next Friday: the 12th July 2024

Finally, we are looking ahead to sports day with all our fingers crossed. Mrs Winkler will be emailing separately as at the moment the weather is not looking in our favour. We hope you have wonderful weekends all!

Best wishes , Mr Pope

N.B We will be sending out some additional information about next year at the start of next week , so please keep a look out for the extra bulletin.

[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)

## Fair King and Queen



## SEND

### Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision

This is a new initiative from Devon that is now being introduced to schools for the next academic year. The school will be attending the senior leaders training in the coming days with a view to next year's introduction, please see link below.

[Introduction to Ordinarily available provision - revised - Support for schools and settings \(devon.gov.uk\)](https://www.devon.gov.uk/ordinarily-available-provision)

# HELP!

We are looking for help to celebrate our amazing school. If anyone in our community is a professional in the field of marketing and or social media and can spare some time to help us with our approach we would be extremely grateful

### Message from the School Governors

The Governors wish to thank you all for completing the parent view questionnaire we sent out last week. We had 89 responses which gives us valuable information we can share with Mr Pope and Senior Leadership Team. Our role is to set the strategic direction of the school and we will ensure your feedback will be considered as we move forward

## Pre-School



Pre-School have had a busy couple of weeks!! They had a visit from Chris Johnson from Animal Encounters and the children enjoyed looking at and holding some animals. Then they had their Mini Olympics and the children all did amazingly well and it was lovely having parents come to watch!!

## Year 1



Year 1 had a great day out in Exeter. The children loved getting on the public bus and wondering around the city to look at the differences from rural to urban areas. We walked down the high street and had a snack on the Cathedral green before heading to the RAMM. We then spent some time walking around the museum looking at all the fascinating displays, the children were super excited when they saw the elephant and giraffe! On the way back to the bus station we walked alongside the original city wall. We were incredibly proud of all of the children, they were so well behaved and they represented our school brilliantly.



## Year 5



### Year 5's Transition day at Sidmouth College



### Bikeability



## Year 6

In year 6, we conducted fieldwork to analyse the change in surface temperature between natural and synthetic materials. We created our own codes, using Microbits, to collect the data.





## THANK YOU from the PTFA!



Thank  
You!

SUMMER FETE! Huge and heartfelt THANKS to everyone who supported the Summer Fete, we had such a blast and hopefully raised lots of money (will confirm soon!) Thank you to the dedicated team of organisers and volunteers, the staff team, to the incredible prize donors and to everyone who attended, you're all stars!



SUNFLOWERS! The lovely Claire and Ben from Pebblebed Landscaping have donated the profits from selling sunflower seeds to the PTFA, we are so grateful to receive £56! Good luck to all the growers and watch this space for details of the tallest sunflower competition in September!



MR FILER TENNIS! The amazing Steve has donated a brilliant £75.50 from the proceeds of his children's tennis club this term.  
Thank you Mr Filer!



CLEAN START! The wonderful Paul from Clean Start has donated a brilliant £55 to the PTFA! Thank you Paul.



CO-OP GRANT! The lovely folks over at Co-Op have granted the PTFA a fantastic £150! We are so grateful, thank you Co-Op! We will let you know how much the PTFA has raised this year and what we have been busy spending it on before the end of term, but  
THANK YOU for all your support this year!



CAN YOU HELP? The PTFA are recruiting a new treasurer, no previous experience required and full training and support available. We would love to chat to you about the role and can send you a job description and have an informal chat if you're interested. Please contact Teri on 07909 798441 for more information.

**0800 538 5458**

Our new Devon Family HUBS  
Advice & Guidance Line - open Monday to  
Friday 10AM until 4PM

**CALL US**  
We're here to help...

Family HUBS Advice & Guidance Line  
**0800 538 5458**

**REQUEST FOR CONTACT**

**Devon Family HUBS**

0-19  
(25 WITH SEND)

Action for Children are supporting Devon Family Hubs. Family Hubs are a developing network of services and community groups that are working together to support families and their children to find opportunities that meet their needs. Please see our website for more details.

**OUR SUPPORT:**

Online Digital Chat

For more information  
**Devon Family HUBS website**

Family HUBS Advice & Guidance Line -  
Mon-Fri 10am to 4pm  
**0800 538 5458**

Come and join the fun with the Summer Reading Challenge at Sidmouth Library!

**Marvellous Makers**

Come and sign up on Saturday 13 July between 10 - 11am and meet the Legendary Library Llamas - Harry and George

**PLUS loads of free activities to join in with throughout the summer - here at Sidmouth Library!**

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092. To donate, please visit [librariesunlimited.org.uk](http://librariesunlimited.org.uk), or [torbaylibraries.org.uk](http://torbaylibraries.org.uk)

Supported by **Devon County Council** **TORBAY COUNCIL**

**THE READING AGENCY**

**2024 Summer Reading Challenge**

Delivered in partnership with libraries

Join **FREE** at your library

Get rewards for reading!

[summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

THE READING AGENCY Celebrating creativity **CREATE!**

## Dates for your diary

**Monday 8th - 12th July**

Sports Week

**Tuesday 9th July**

Sports Day (KS1 AM , KS2 PM)

Balsam Bashing Y4 (AM) Yr 2 (PM)

**Wednesday 10th July**

Balsam Bashing YR3 (AM) YR5(PM)

**Thursday 11th July**

Reserve date for Sports day (1)

Balsam Bashing YR 1 (AM)

**Friday 12th July**

Reserve date for Sports day (2)

**Friday 12th July**

PTFA Freezy Fridays

**Tuesday - Thursday 16th -18th July**

Reception home visits

**Wednesday 17th July**

YR5 Trip

**Thursday 18th July**

Yr 6 Production (2 Performances TBC)

**Friday 19th July**

PTFA Freezy Fridays

**Wednseday 24th July**

Leavers Service

Last Day of Term

### SEPTEMBER

**Sunday 1st September**

Secondary Schools Applications open

**Thursday 31st October**

Secondary Schools Applications close