

SCHOOL MATTERS

THE FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER FROM NEWTON POPPLEFORD SCHOOL

Friday 6th October 2023

A Message From Mr Pope

Dear Parents/Carers,

The autumn term has seen a real drive from the staff team to ensure purposeful and enabling learning environments. We have implemented a consistent approach across the school that benefits the children's learning. This approach builds over time and allows the children to see the progression in their learning across a unit. It also gives the children reference points and memory aids so that they can remember what they have previously learnt and recognise how that helps them build knowledge over time. As a staff team we have been learning about the importance of recognising how children learn and the importance of recalling knowledge to aid the long term memory of our pupils.



Similarly, this term we have introduced a comprehensive Responsive teaching and feedback approach which includes marking. We have again based this on current research and educational thinking. It is based on a simple proposition: **“Every child in Newton Poppleford Primary School will receive progressive feedback in every lesson in every subject.”** You will find the policy on our school website under the policy section. As a staff, we can already see the impact on the progression in children's learning and the standard of work they are producing.

We have received another visit this week to look at science in the school. A strong positive theme that came out of this was the opportunities that children had in all year groups to carry out experiments and apply their investigatory skills and develop scientific enquiry. Many children were spoken to and they all spoke so eloquently about how they approach science and what they have learnt across their schooling. Our children are fantastic and we are proud of all of them. A group of children had a more in-depth discussion and they were also brilliant at building on the comments of their peers. Well done all!



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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Many parents will also have noticed our new school council has been appointed. We are following this up over the next two weeks with our pupil leadership appointments in years 5 and 6 to support our school endeavour.

Please also look out for the dates for your diary section as we have some more events/visits, trips etc... that are coming up soon.

Thank you to everyone for their continued support and engagement with the school. As always, please get in contact if you would like further information.

Vacancies - Still Looking

If you or anyone you know has the skills and interest to be the PA to our governing body please let us know. We would really appreciate you spreading the opportunity on social media or amongst your friends, family and wider circle.

<https://www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk/web/vacancies/155060>

SEND:



As a school we really recognise the importance of speech and language. Early development and intervention is absolutely vital. Last month, Speech and Language UK published its latest report, Listening to Unheard Children which states that “teachers now estimate that 1.9 million children are behind with their talking and/or understanding of words - the highest number ever recorded”. All practitioners at Newton Poppleford adopt approaches that boost language and participation in the classroom.

Best Wishes,

Mr Pope

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Pre-School



In Pre-School, the children enjoyed listening to the story "The Smartest Giant In Town." We talked about some WOW words- 'scruffiest, wound, scrambled and shivered.' They were also good at hearing the words that rhymed.

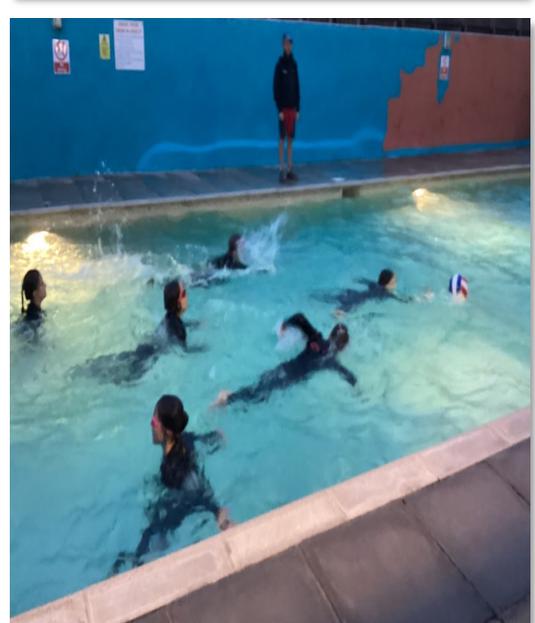
Met Office Visit To Year 2

Year 2 had a visitor from the Met Office that is travelling to Antarctica to forecast the weather over there. Year 2 are learning all about Antarctica in class. It was great to see how we measure the weather and what we would need to pack in our suitcase if we were visiting the cold continent of Antarctica.



Year 6 Residential To Skern Lodge

Year 6 had a great time at Skern Lodge. They spent all day participating in outdoor activities, including: climbing, abseiling, body boarding, costal traversing and orienteering. It was a great time for them to bond as a class and to create some long-lasting memories!



Adventure Island

This half term we have linked some of our session to History topics to enrich our curriculum. Year 3 have made Stone Age inspired natural paints, Year 4 built Roman inspired aqueducts, played the Roman game rota and cooked Roman flat bread on the campfire. Year 5 have built miniature Anglo Saxon homes and created life-sized homes using the Kitcamp. The children have had great fun and demonstrated fantastic teamwork!



Year 5 & 6 Football Tournament

This week the Year 5 & 6 girls competed in a 5a-side football tournament. They won two games and tied one. They all displayed super teamwork and sportsmanship and even took first place in the tournament!



[Secondary School Admissions For Year 6 Children](#)

This is a friendly reminder that you are now able to apply for a secondary school place for your Year 6 child.

The easiest way to apply is online by visiting www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline If you don't wish to or can't apply online, you can also complete a hard copy application form which can be obtained by calling 0345 155 1019.

If you need further information then please see the Devon County Admissions webpage at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

The closing date for applications is 31st October 2023.

Late applications may be disadvantaged, so it is vital that you make an on time application for your child to give the best chance of securing a place at one of your preferred schools.

If you need any help from our school office then please don't hesitate to contact us.

[World Mental Health](#)

This year World Mental Health Day falls on the 10th October and we will be supporting this year by asking for a £1 contribution from children to wear an item of yellow clothing. **We will only be accepting online donations via the School Gateway, no cash please.**

In school the children will be looking at a number of resources and ways to boost mental health. In the school we will be looking at our star of positivity and asking children to consider how positive outlooks and growth mindsets can help us maintain our mental health. <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/fundraising/helloyellow/>

[Parking](#)

We thank the vast majority of parents for parking responsibly near the school. Recently, there have been a few complaints to the school, by parents & local residents, about parking along double yellow lines or across residents driveways. This means that the drivers have a restricted view and could cause a serious incident. Please consider the pupils safety of the roads on which you park.

PTFA

Bonfire Night! Friday 3rd November 2023. The Parish Council have invited the PTFA to cater the village fireworks event again this year. This is a great fundraiser for us and we are excited to sizzle some sausages. The Cannon are on board to cook the BBQ, now we just need you! **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Can you steward the event? Can you sell some burgers? This brilliant community event and fundraiser can only go ahead if we have the bodies to run it! Please get in touch with Teri 07909798441 if you can help.



PTFA
cake sales
2023/24

12th Oct - Year 6
9th Nov - Year 5
18th Jan - Year 4
29th Feb - Year 3
21st Mar - Year 2
25th Apr - Year 1
16th May - Reception
20th June - Preschool

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Sidmouth Science Festival



The poster for the Sidmouth Science Festival features a central circular logo with the text "Sidmouth Science Festival 6-15 October 23" surrounded by various scientific icons like a hot air balloon, a beaker, a DNA helix, a leaf, a magnifying glass, and a globe. Below the logo are several activity boxes: "CHILDREN'S ART" (6th-15th, Kennaway House, weather theme), "SUPER SCIENCE SATURDAY" (Sat 7th, Sidmouth Town, explore, make and take), "ENVIRONMENT DAY" (Sun 8th, Sidmouth Parish Church), "WEEKDAY TALKS & ACTIVITIES" (9th-13th, various locations), "BIODIVERSITY DAY" (Sat 14th, Kennaway House), "ROBOT WORKSHOP" (Sat 14th, All Saints' Church), and "NORMAN LOCKYER OBSERVATORY FAMILY DAY" (Sun 15th, space, flight & astronomy). The bottom of the poster includes the festival name, website (www.sidmouthsciencefestival.org), social media icons, and a QR code.

Dates for Your Diary Up to Half-Term

- Tuesday 10th October:** Hello Yellow Day World Mental Health Day
- Wednesday 11th October:** Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Chris Johnson (Animal Encounters) Pre-School
Year 6 Sidmouth Youth Club Talk
- Thursday 12th October:** Year 3 & Year 6 Trip
Year 6 PTFA Cake Sale
- Thursday 19th October:** Year 3 Dancing Through Charcoal
- Friday 20th October:** Last Day
- Monday 23rd—Friday 27th October:** Half Term
- Monday 30th October:** First Day Back For Pupils & Staff