

School Matters

The Fortnightly Newsletter from Newton Poppleford School

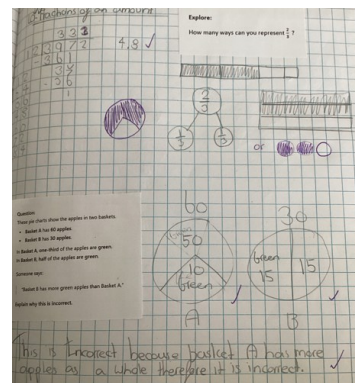
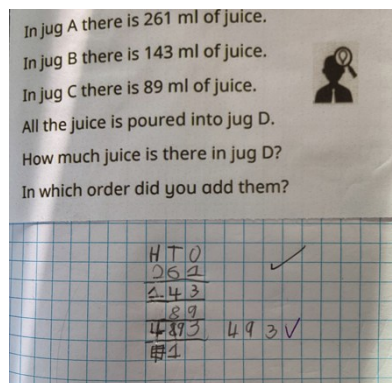
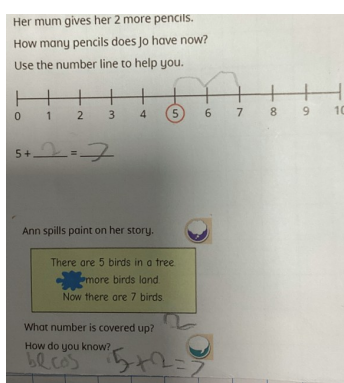
Friday 24th October 2025

Message from Mr Pope

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this week's newsletter I would like to celebrate the children's maths work and achievements over this term. In each year group, the children have really excelled in so many different ways. In each lesson children have an aspect of fluency, reasoning and problem solving. As part of our oracy framework, we place the value on mathematical thinking and children's explanations of how they know. Children increasingly become more adept at explaining, justifying, generalising and proving they are correct. Below are some examples from our current curriculum of children applying themselves to problems in years 1, 3 and 6. Parents can really support learning in maths at home in a number of ways. There is a useful family maths toolkit available from the National Numeracy website:

<https://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/helping-children-maths/family-maths-toolkit>



I have been lucky enough to visit a number of different settings over the past few weeks in the lead up to appointing our new Deputy Head teacher (We will be sharing information with our school community about this as soon as we are able). In these visits, you cannot help but make comparisons with our school and it always leads me to reflect on how fantastic our children are. Their behaviour, commitment to learning and an infectious spark of curiosity is evident across our school.

In half term, the clocks go back and Halloween is around the corner. I am sure the children are very much looking forward to it. I know it is a very exciting and joy filled night and we hope you all have lots of fun (and sweets!). The Child Accident Prevention trust have created a safety poster for families to help everyone stay safe this Halloween.

<https://capt.org.uk/halloween/>

[utm_source=capt&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=parentsoc25&mc_cid=376a41f0ed&mc_eid=d72f37d350](https://capt.org.uk/halloween/?utm_source=capt&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=parentsoc25&mc_cid=376a41f0ed&mc_eid=d72f37d350)

Today we also see our annual Scooterthon to see us into half term! Good luck reception!

We hope you all have an enjoyable half term break and the weather is kind for everyone across the holiday. Look out for your new curriculum overviews on our return to school.

Continued . . .

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.

Message from Mr Pope Continued

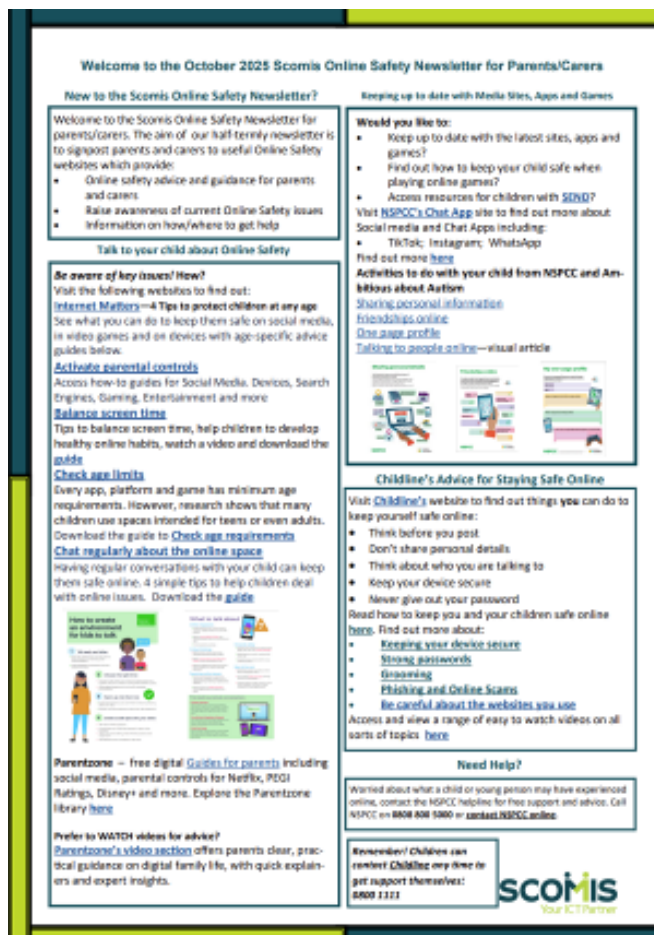
We have a much loved and liked member of our school leaving us today. He is going to be missed and we are so proud of him for all his achievements and learning in his time at Newton Poppleford Primary School.

"We will miss you and you are always welcome to come and visit."

Good luck on the next stage of your journey!"

Best wishes

Mr Pope



www.childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk

Online Safety Newsletter

<https://www.scomis.org/app/uploads/2025/10/OLS-Newsletter-parents-Oct-2025.pdf>

Pre -School



Pre school had a treat last week when they were invited down to Adventure Island with the Year 6 class to help make apple juice.

The children really enjoyed watching how it was made and how it travelled through the press.

Some children then drank some of the apple juice. It was delicious and very refreshing.



Whole School



During the summer term, local artist Nic George spent a day working with Year 5 and Year 6 pupils on an exciting project to design artwork for a life-sized donkey statue.

This month, Nic George returned to support Year 6 as they brought the donkey to life with their vibrant and imaginative designs. The completed statue will be featured in a public exhibition at Kennaway House, alongside other donkeys decorated by local schools and artists. - See poster on the dates Page

Year 3 Art



We have really been enjoying working with charcoal in Year 3. This week, inspired by the work of Heather Hansen, we practised our gestural art performance ahead of inviting our grown ups in after half term to see us in action (date to follow).

Reception



Reception have been learning about Diwali - the festival of lights and decorated their rangoli patterns after watching how some Hindu children made the patterns using rice and paint!

Year 1



Year One had a fantastic morning in Adventure Island. Mrs Dowsing showed us how to safely make a campfire and we all collected different sized twigs (Mice tails, rats tails and cats tails!). Then, we made some hot squash on the fire. It was delicious and warmed us up. Everyone followed the safety rules carefully and had a wonderful morning adventuring.

Year 3 and 4



Years 3 & 4 each had a session learning about the importance of pollinators and flowers. They got to plant daffodil and tulip bulbs which will make a great display next year when they bloom. Claire, the founder of Little Green Change, gave a 10 minute assembly in each class. Her charity provide this free of charge, so we would like to say a big thank you to her for supporting us to make our grounds more biodiverse. Please check the website - www.littlegreenchange.com

Sporting Activities



On Tuesday 14th October we had a beautiful sunny afternoon for the yr 5/6 cross county event at Sidmouth College .

All of our children ran brilliantly and we came away with the boys team finishing first and the girls in third. Special mention to individual winners with Max finishing in first place and Josh in third.

Year 3



On Thursday 16th October, Year 3 enjoyed an exciting trip to the River Otter with the East Devon Countryside Rangers. The children took part in stream dipping and were thrilled to discover some fascinating river life, including bullhead fish and freshwater shrimps.

Their adventure continued with a minibeast hunt, where they swept the long grass with nets and carefully collected their finds in jars. Among the many creatures identified were ladybirds, caterpillars, and even wolf spiders!

PTFA Update

We're always excited to welcome new faces to the PTFA! If you'd like to help plan and organise events, we'd love to hear from you. Please speak to **Georgia Trengove** to be added to the group.

Everyone in our school community is automatically part of the PTFA, but we're always keen to hear **fresh ideas, new perspectives**, and ways to make our events even better.

A **huge thank you** to everyone who completed our recent PTFA survey! Your feedback is invaluable and will help the committee and planning teams make future events even more enjoyable for everyone.

We're also starting to **prepare for the Christmas Fair!** ☺ After half term, we'll share updates on **how you can get involved** to help make this year's fair the best one yet.

Keep an eye out for **donation requests** and **volunteer sign-up links** – we're trying a new system this year, so you'll be able to sign up quickly and easily through **PTA Events**.

Upcoming Events – Dates for Your Diary

- **Friday 7th November** – Harford & Newton Poppleford Parish Council **Bonfire Night** & PTFA **BBQ**
- **Thursday 20th November** – Year 4 **Cake Sale**
- **Friday 21st November** – **Non-Uniform Day: Dress Down for Donations**
- **Friday 21st November** – **Adult Social: Tropic Night**
- **Saturday 6th December** – **Christmas Fair**

Elfridges is Back – Bigger and Better Than Ever!

Our magical children's Christmas shop is returning, giving pupils the chance to choose and wrap special gifts for their loved ones.

To make it possible, we're holding a **Non-Uniform Day on Friday 21st November**. Children can wear their own clothes in exchange for donating a **new, unused gift** to help stock Elfridges.

Suggested donations include

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| • Pamper treats & toiletries | • Candles |
| • Cosy socks, hats or scarves | • BBQ tools or mini gadgets |
| • Mugs or travel cups | • Car air fresheners or pocket torches |
| • Key rings or bottle openers | • Novelty pens or notepads |
| • Small games or puzzles | • Any other little treasures you'd love to give or receive |
| • Chocolates or sweets | |

Waitrose Community Matters Appeal

We're delighted that Newton Poppleford Primary School has been chosen as part of Waitrose's *Community Matters* scheme. Over the next 3 months, shoppers can use their green tokens to support one of three local causes.

1st place receives **£1,500**, 2nd place receives **£1,000**, 3rd place receives **£500**

Please support us by adding your green tokens to the **Newton Poppleford Primary School** section whenever you shop at Waitrose. Every token counts towards helping us raise vital funds for the school.

Thank you as always for your ongoing support.



Dates for the Diary

Dates for the Diary	
27-31/10/2025	HALF TERM
04/11/2025	Open Day for Reception Class - New starters Sept 2026
05/11/2025	Year 3 Trip -
07/11/2025	Year 5 Swimming Lesson (1 of 6)
	Reception and Pre School trip
10/11/2025	Mini Police Year 6
12/11/2025	Year 5 and 6 Basketball (selected children)
14/11/2025	Year 5 Swimming Lesson (2 of 6)
	Open Day for Reception Class - New starters Sept 2026
17-21 /11/2025	Maths Week
	Parents Evenings
17/11/2025	Mini Police Year 6
19/11/2025	Year 4 Trip
21/11/2025	Year 5 Swimming Lesson (3 of 6)
	Non Unifrom Day - Elfridges PTFA Event
	PTFA Event Tropic Night
24/11/2025	Mini Police Year 6
28/11/2025	Year 5 Swimming Lesson (4 of 6)
05/12/2025	Year 5 Swimming Lesson (5 of 6)
09/12/2025	Parent Drop in Café
	Pre School Nativity
	Reception and KS1 Nativity Performance
10/12/2025	Reception and KS1 Nativity Performance
	Year 3 + 4 Multiskills festival
11/12/2025	Christmas Jumper Day
	KS2 Christmas performance 1&2
12/12/2025	Year 5 Swimming Lesson (6 of 6)
16/12/2025	Chrsitmas Dinner



South West Academy of Fine & Applied Arts
Open Exhibition 2025
 Kennaway House, Coburg Road, Sidmouth EX10 8NG
 Tuesday 28th October – Saturday 8th November 2025
 10:30am – 16:30pm daily including Sunday 2nd November

Over 210 paintings, sculptures, prints, photographs and textiles.
 Free entry
www.southwestacademy.org.uk

Newton Poppleford Primary School

Open day for children starting in September 2026

(Term between 5 September 2025 and 21 August 2026)

Tuesday 4th November
 from 1:30pm to 2:30pm

or

Friday 14th November at 09:30am to 10:30am

If you have children starting school next year, please come along and take a look around our school and meet our great team of staff.

The pre-school will be open too.

Please email admin@newton-poppleford.dorset.sch.uk if you are attending stating which day, so that we know how many to expect.

Apply for a secondary place

Applications for year 6 children to start in year 7 at secondary school in September 2026 open on 1 September 2025 and close on 31 October 2025.