

School Matters

The Fortnightly Newsletter from Newton Poppleford School

Friday 19th April 2024

A Message From Mr Pope

Dear Parents/Carers,

Many of you will have seen on Facebook that we had a lovely surprise to start this Summer term with a letter from David Attenborough to our Year 1 class. He is a figure we look at in our curriculum so it was lovely to receive a message back for the children. We have also welcomed Mrs Bradley back to the school after her brief absence and all the children and adults are very pleased to have her back with us.

Across the summer term we have some exciting things for the school. There are various trips, events and dates for the diary as well as some that are pending confirmation. Two of note are our Sports week (Sports Day will take place in this week) and Art week in the second part of the summer term. Art week will also give parents an opportunity to come in and see the work the children have created with a gallery event. At the start of the year we voted on our pupil priorities, the children voted emphatically to work with an artist to create a mural that raises awareness of climate change and this will be a key part of that week. The other priorities are also ongoing and you can see them below:

- 1: Improve the school's approach to environmental issues by joining the WAR on WASTE initiative and help us to achieve the eco flag award.
- 2: Develop our approach to helping everyone in school with their well-being. This includes diversity and anti-bullying initiatives. We want to make sure we have fun, our learning is healthy and active and we spend time in the outdoors. (We will be working towards achieving awards for this as well).
- 3: To raise money for an art mural that raises awareness of climate change that all pupils contribute to.

An insight into our school development activity: Each term the teaching staff engage in action research not only to improve our own professional practice as a team but also to improve the outcomes for pupils. These action research cycles are based on current evidence from educational research as well as what we believe will improve our school.

In Autumn we looked at feedback and its impact on pupil progression. "Feedback functions formatively only if the information fed back to the learner is used by the learner in improving performance." - Dylan Williams

In Spring we looked at memory and how can we help children to learn more, remember more and do more "Using our memory shapes our memory." - Robert Bjork. The idea of desirable difficulty – is it supposed to be easy?

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.

In Summer we are looking at how we question children and the importance of wait time and preparation time for pupils. Does giving wait time and focusing on higher order questioning provide a richer learning experience for pupils within the classroom? Cohen et al. (Cohen et al., 2004)

I feel it is important for you as parents to know that as a staff team we are constantly working to better our practice together – this is part of our culture that develops the opportunities for children within our school and is very much driven by our school vision.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the activities over Easter, we have received some lovely art work and stories. I will be looking at these next week with the pupil leaders and celebrating them in assembly today. We will also be publishing some of them in the next issue of the Hive.

On the 30th April Mrs Tollerfield will be leaving us and I once again want to thank her for her contribution to our school and wish her well on her next steps. Mrs Laureys and Mrs Tollerfield are working very closely together over the next few weeks to ensure a robust handover. As mentioned before, we will be in touch very shortly to arrange dates with parents of children with SEND to meet with Mrs Laureys to discuss their child or children.

We are going to be creating a community garden from some of our allotments that we would like to offer out to the public after school on a Thursday. We are going to be running this between 3:30pm and 4:30pm on a Thursday after school. More details will follow but if you know of anyone or if you would like to be involved in this please do let us know. We hope everyone is looking forward to a fantastic summer term ahead!

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Best Wishes,

Mr Pope

Important Information

SEND

This week we had a very encouraging visit from Hannah Jones the new SEND area advisor for East Devon. We spoke about the possibilities of collaboration and Hannah has offered to join meetings with our Learning Community schools for greater consistency across the area. SEND continues to be the primary area of focus for the local authority as they are working with the DfE to reduce the huge deficit by engaging in something called the safety valve agreement. This was a very positive visit and Hannah will be working closely with maintained schools to support their offering. She has also offered advice and support for Mrs Laureys as she moves into her new role.

Mealtime Play Assistant Vacancy

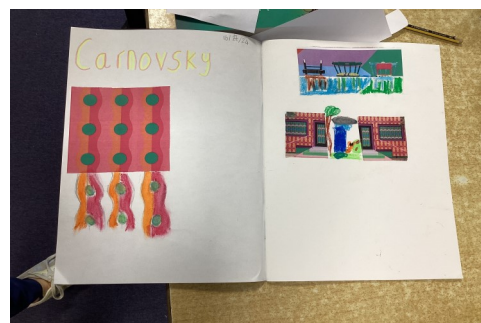
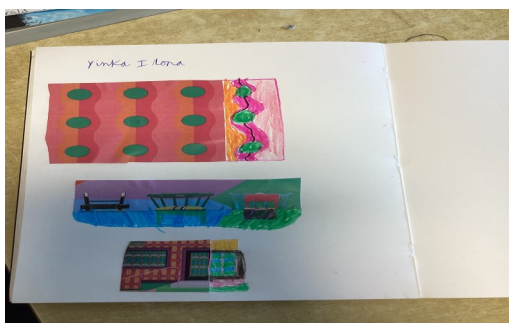
We are currently looking for a mealtime play assistant. Full details are available on our school website. The post will be for 6.25 hours per week from 12-1.15pm, Monday to Friday, term-time only. The rate of pay will be £11.59 per hour. If you are interested in applying please complete an application form which is available from the school website and either email it to the school office or drop a hard copy into the office. There is no application deadline for this post, applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis until we appoint a successful candidate. We would like the successful candidate to start on the 13th May 2024.

Year 6

Last half term, our play leaders helped organise and lead a day of PE for the whole school. They came up with five different stations for each class to participate in throughout the day. The whole school had a great time!



In year 6, this half term, we will be looking at the use of colour. On Tuesday, we looked at a few different artists and explored creating art using their style of colour!



A note from Mrs Turner:

We are planning an exciting Art week in the second half of the Summer term. We are looking to fill up the week with exciting and enriching Art activities for the children and wondered if you could help? If you are a practicing artist, art enthusiast or retired professional and would like to help deliver an activity during the week to a class or classes we would love your support during the week. If you are interested in helping then please email the school office.



Other Events Outside School

The Cannon Inn

PEBBLEBED LANDSCAPING & GARDEN MAINTENANCE

COMBE GARDEN CENTRE

Let's paint the village yellow!

Get ready to grow the tallest sunflower and support Newton Popleford Primary School PTFA with Pebblebed Landscaping's "Grow the Tallest Sunflower" Competition!

Thanks to our friends at Combe Garden Centre, we have Giant Sunflower seeds and seed compost to kickstart your gardening adventure.

A suggested donation of £2 gets you a pack of 6 seeds.

You can grab your seeds from The Cannon Inn or swing by the school playground after school and speak to the PFTA.

Need some seed compost? Pop by the PTFA between 3:15 and 3:25 at the school's vehicle entrance. Don't forget to bring your own container to take it home.

Let's make our gardens bloom and support our school together!

Exciting!

We'll be judging the winners at the start of the new school year in September. The lucky winners will be awarded an engraved shield and a voucher for 4 pizzas on a Monday night at the Cannon Inn (eat in or takeaway).

Chill Out YOUTH CLUB

JOIN US IN THE MEETING PLACE FOR AN EVENING OF FUN FOR EVERYONE - INCLUDING GAMES, CRAFTS, DISCUSSION AND FOOD

Sunday 21st April
6.00 pm - 8.00 pm

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN YEAR 5 ONWARDS

The Meeting Place, St Luke's Church, Newton Popleford
Telephone 07398 117173/01404 871443 or email graham.stlukescyf@gmail.com for more details

A Parent's Guide to Safety and Privacy Settings



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online

When you give a child access to the Internet, you give them access to the adult world.

The Internet treats everyone as adults and there are many things, they are not yet ready to know, which is why it is vital that some form of safety settings are in place. Doing something is better than doing nothing.

What happens online has an effect to what happens offline and what happens offline has an effect to what happens online.



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipssed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with



Dates for Your Diary This Term

Wednesday 24th April	Year 3 and 4 Cricket
Thursday 25th April	Year 1 Cake Sale
Friday 26th April:	Swimming lessons for Year 3 (lesson 1 of 5)
Tuesday 30th April	Ancient Egypt day in Year 3
Wednesday 1st May	Year 5 and 6 Ultimate Frisbee
Friday 3rd May	Year 3 Swimming Lessons (lesson 2 of 5)
Friday 10th May	Year 3 Swimming Lessons (lesson 3 of 5)
Monday 13th —Friday 17th May	S.A.T.S
Friday 17th May	Year 3 Swimming Lessons (lesson 4 of 5)
Wednesday 22nd May	Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra livestream 'Sea Stories'
Friday 24th May	Year 3 Swimming Lessons (lesson 5 of 5)
Monday 27th—31st May	Half Term
Monday 3rd June	Inset day
Tuesday 4th June	Children return to school
Friday 7th June	Year 1 Swimming Lessons (lesson 1 of 5)
Thursday 13th June	Reception class trip
Friday 14th June	Year 1 Swimming Lessons (lesson 2 of 5)
Monday 17th June—Friday 21st June	Art Week
Friday 21st June	Year 1 Swimming Lessons (lesson 3 of 5)
Friday 21st June	Art Gallery and Sale in Hall
Friday 28th June	Year 1 Swimming Lessons (lesson 4 of 5)
Monday 1st July—Friday 5th July	Year 5 Bikeability
Friday 5th July	Year 1 Swimming Lessons (lesson 5 of 5)