

SCHOOL MATTERS

THE FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER FROM NEWTON POPPLEFORD SCHOOL

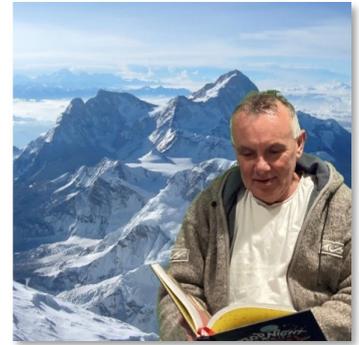
Friday 9th February 2024

A Message From Mr Pope

Dear Parents Carers,

What a couple of weeks we have had in school. We have been extremely lucky to welcome a number of visitors into the school which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. We have also taken part in some National initiatives to raise the profile of the NSPCC, maths and safer internet use amongst our school community. I want to say a special thank you to Mrs Hall for arranging a number of visitors and trips and Mrs Turner for organising the drumming this week. The children had a fantastic time and it was a really joyful experience for them.

Please remember to take on the reading challenge over half term if you have a minute or two. "Where do we like to read?". It doesn't have to be exotic but we would love to see how the children engage with their reading over the holidays in some weird and wonderful places. Mr Abelson, certainly gets out and about and some of our year 3's may recognise where he is from their mountains topic.



I also wanted to let parents and our school community know that the school is expecting an inspection from OFSTED before the end of the academic year. This happens around every 4 years. We are expecting this from mid-March. I am sure many parents will be aware how prevalent this is in the press at the moment and on a National level. We will provide more information in the next term about this and how the inspection team may communicate with parents. This is for the most part in the form of a survey and perhaps some individual conversations.

I would also like to extend my thanks to Kirsty Rorke and Scott Walker for coming in to talk to the children about the MUGA in the village. This is a fantastic asset to our community and they did an excellent job of talking to the children about how to enjoy this responsibly and looking after it for the benefit of all. The analogy they used was a powerful one and resonated with us here at the school hugely. TEAM – Together, Everyone, Achieves, More.

We have some more enrichment things lined up for next half term including Science week, a Storytelling Week, World Book Day and the Big Walk and Wheel week (walk to school). We are looking forward to the start of Spring and the weather improving. We already have frogspawn in our pond and the possibilities for our outdoor curriculum are exciting.

Have a fantastic half term everyone!
Best Wishes,



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.

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SEND Update :

Developmental co-ordination disorder (dyspraxia) in children

Developmental co-ordination disorder (DCD), also known as dyspraxia, is a condition affecting physical co-ordination. It causes a child to perform less well than expected in daily activities for their age, and appear to move clumsily.

There's no cure for DCD, but a number of therapies can help children to manage their problems.

These include:

being taught ways of do activities they find difficult, such as breaking down difficult movements into smaller parts and practicing them regularly

adapting tasks to make them easier, such as using special grips on pens and pencils so they are easier to hold

Although DCD does not affect how intelligent a child is, it can make it more difficult for them to learn and they may need extra help to keep up at school.

For more information please follow this link:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/developmental-coordination-disorder-dyspraxia/>

Royal Opera House

Year Two to Year Six participated in the Royal Opera House 'Create and Sing' activity. We were introduced to a pianist and two opera singers, who showed off their incredible talents. We joined in with some dancing, counting, and vocal warm-up exercises. It was a fantastic opportunity to hear some opera music and see their acting skills.



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Little Popples this week

Pre-School have enjoyed learning about Lunar New Year and the Year of the Dragon. The children tried some prawn crackers, wrote some Chinese letters and ate rice using chopsticks.



Visitor in Year 1

Year 1 were lucky to have Caroline from Exeter Synagogue in class today talking to them about Shabbat - the Jewish Sabbath.



There was lots of singing, blessings and artefacts to look at. They even got to try some (pretend) wine and challah bread.



African drumming workshop

Year 2 and Key Stage 2 took part in African drumming workshops throughout the day on Wednesday. Shumba Arts delivered a fantastic workshop where the children got the chance to take part using African drums including movement, singing and story based activities. A great experience for the children and lots of fun was had by all - including the staff!



Year 5 Science workshop

On Wednesday, Year 5 spent the morning at Sidmouth College. They attended a Science transition workshop where they learnt all about chemical reactions. They carried out an experiment to see which chemicals would heat up when mixed together. It was great fun to be in the science lab and to learn all about the importance of health and safety.



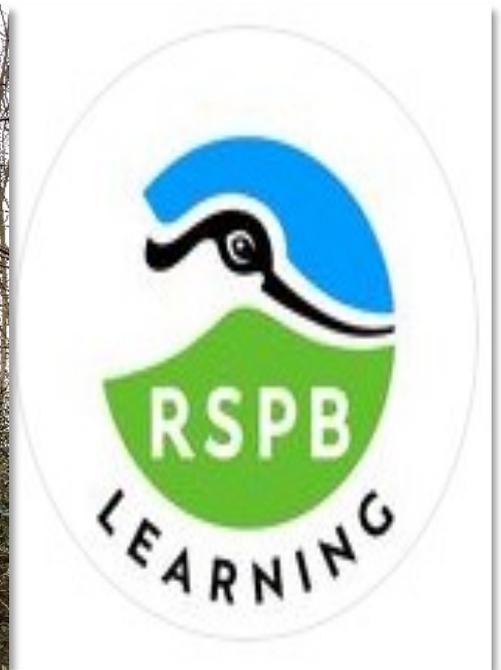
Year 6

In Year 6, we wrapped up our Electricity Unit with the creation of Scribble Bots. We connected a series circuit with a battery and motor. Then, we attached it to cups and placed markers inside. We all had a great time and have learned lots!



Adventure Island

This week classes took part in the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch. Children enjoyed taking time to slow down and tune in to the nature around us. Alongside crows, wood pigeons, robins and blue tits we also spotted a number of frogs in the pond and huge amounts of frogspawn!



Parent Information Sessions Around Funding For Childcare

Devon Early Years and Childcare Services are running some online sessions for parents in February to give an overview of what funding is available and the eligibility criteria parents need to apply for different funded streams and how a child can access funded time.

These sessions are on offer on:

Wednesday 14th February 16:00-17:00pm

Please click on the link below for session links.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/eycs/parent-information-sessions-around-funding-for-childcare/>

Job Vacancy

Fixed Term Administration Assistant (Maternity Cover) for 17.5hrs/week

Job Vacancy at Newton Poppleford Primary School

Administration Assistant: Part-time (17.5hrs per week). Fixed Term to cover maternity leave. Start date:22/03/2024.

Pay rate: £11.79-£11.98/hour. **Closing date for applications:** 17:00pm on 15/02/2024 **Interview date:** 20/02/2024.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and hard-working individual to join our busy, friendly administration team. The successful candidate will work as part of our small team, under the direction of the School Administration Manager. We aim to provide an outstanding administration service to the school and wider community and are looking for someone who will share this commitment.

The post holder will provide general admin support, including reception and front of house duties, and must work well in a team. Good numeracy, literacy and IT skills are essential. Training will be provided where needed and we welcome candidates who have not worked in a school before.

The contract will be fixed term to cover maternity leave and is likely to be for a year. The post is part-time, for 17.5 hours per week, starting on 22/03/2024. The 17.5 hours will need to be worked as follows:

Monday 08:30 – 12:00

Tuesday 08:30 – 16:00

Friday 08:30 – 16:00

There may be additional hours available to cover staff absence, as and when required.

Visits to the school are very much encouraged and interested candidates are invited to make an appointment to visit the school with Mrs Angela Nash, School Administration Manager, on 01395 568300.

To make an application, please complete an application form and email to the school office (admin@newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk).

[PTFA](#)

Following on from a very successful school disco, our TROPIC PARTY! Will take place on Friday 15th March. Make sure to save the date



★ NEWTON POP PTFA ★

Tropic Party

Make-up Edition!

Games Raffle
Prizes Make-up tutorial

PTFA FUNDRAISER!

FRIDAY 15 MAR 7:30PM
SCHOOL HALL

TICKETS £5 TO INCLUDE WELCOME DRINK

CONTACT SIAN 07512 698422 TO BOOK

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PARENT & CARER DROP-IN SESSION

Parental Minds have been invited in to tell us about what they do and what they offer - they will be with us after 9 am



THURSDAY 29TH FEBRUARY

8:45 AM - 10:30 AM

**School
Library**

ALL WELCOME



MUGA Official REOPENING Saturday 10th February



12.30pm Opening
12.45pm Ribbon Cutting
with special guests
1pm Penalty ShootOut
1.30pm Parents v Kids Football
1.45 Parents v Kids Netball
2pm Close



Community Cafe
extended opening during this event.

Newton Poppleford MUGA and Pavilion Playing Field

Dates for Your Diary Until The Easter Holidays

Friday 9th February:	Break Up For Half Term
Monday 19th February:	First Day Back For All Staff & Pupils
Thursday 29th February:	Parent and Carer drop in session 8.45 am—10.30 (Visit from Parental Minds) Year 3 cake sale
Friday 1st March:	Year 3 trip (may change)
Tuesday 5th March:	Year 5 trip
Wednesday 6th March:	Individual School Photos
Thursday 7th March:	World Book Day
Monday 11th March-Friday 15th March:	British Science Week
Monday 11th March:	Year 2 trip
Wednesday 13th March:	Year 6 trip
Friday 15th March:	PTFA Tropic Party
Thursday 21st March:	Year 2 cake sale
Wednesday 27th March:	Years 3- 6 Church and Easter Bonnet Parade for KS1 and R
Thursday 28th March:	Break up for Easter Holidays
Monday 15th April:	Inset Day
Tuesday 16th April:	First Day Back For Pupils