

POPPLIFORD POST

2016/9

EARLY JUNE 2016

Diverse Dates for your Diary

Friday, 10th June
Queen's 90th
Birthday
Celebratory Lunch

Monday 13th June
ESCOT Week for
Year 5

Wednesday,
22nd June
Y6 Cake Sale

Thursday 23rd June
KSI Mini Olympics

Thursday 30th June
KS2 Sports Day

Friday, 1st July
School Fete

Thursday, 21st July
Term ends @
1.30pm



PARKING OUTSIDE OUR SCHOOL

As many of you are aware, there was a serious accident outside school on Tuesday morning. The police have asked us to emphasise and re-emphasise the importance of NOT parking on the double yellow lines outside the school.

Parking there causes extra congestion at a time when traffic along School Lane is at its busiest.

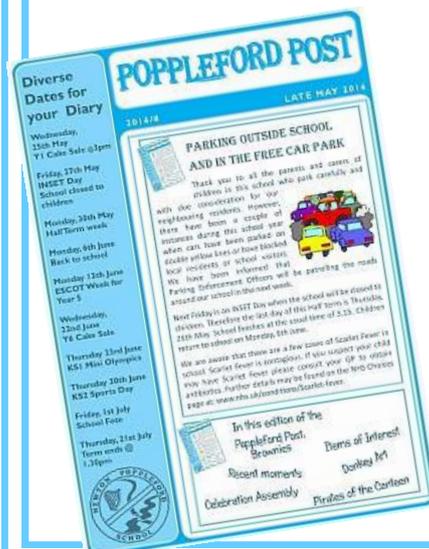
Police advise us to ask those who live nearby to consider walking to school.

Those further afield have been advised not to park in School Lane but park considerately in the local vicinity and then walk the short distance into school.

Please consider accommodating these changes into your journey. This way we can all make the journey to and from school safer for both adults and children.

The pavement outside school can become congested before and after school. If you are in a group having conversations please consider talking in the playground at the appropriate time.

Regular readers of Poppleford Post will know the number of times parking outside our school has been mentioned. If there were a next time..... Although perhaps this serious incident will stop that happening.





'Accident waiting to happen' near school

Stephen Sumner

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A child could be hit by a car if visibility is not improved outside Newton Poppleford Primary School, a parent has warned.

Chris Hodgson said there was no enforcement to stop parking on the double yellow lines, so vehicles lined School Lane, creating a 150-metre stretch to the traffic island that could be difficult to navigate.

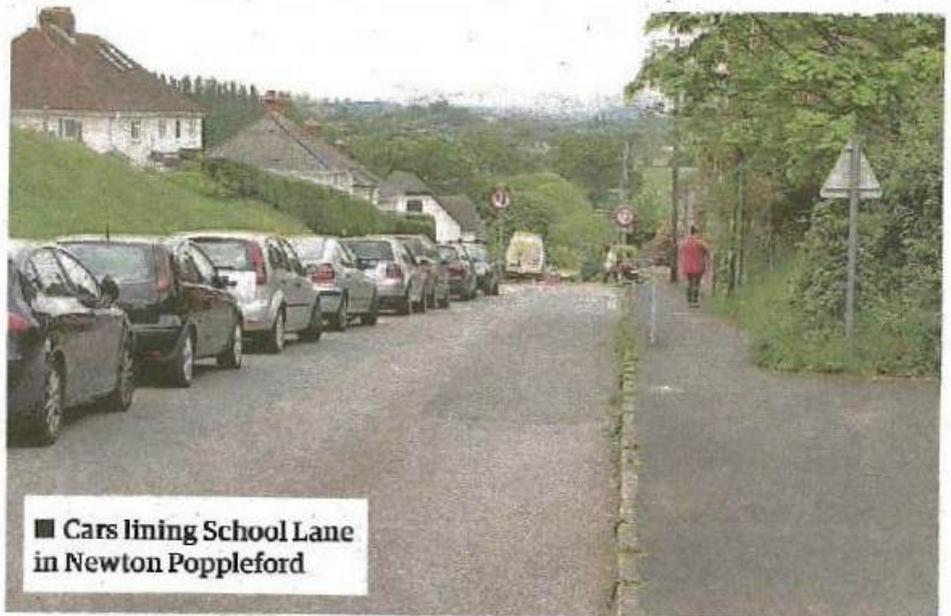
He is urging Devon County Council (DCC) to review the road and paint zigzag lines – so drivers in breach face a £70 on-the-spot fine.

Mr Hodgson, whose children aged six and eight attend the school, said: "The school has been battling with parking issues for many years, but it is getting progressively worse.

"Once vehicles park [on the double yellow lines], then you have a run of about 150 metres of single road where no one can get up or down.

"Then drivers start pushing and shoving and no one is watching the children. Then add in the frustration as traffic cannot move, and, lo and behold, an accident is waiting to happen.

"Children cannot see over the parked cars and drivers cannot see the children on the path.



■ Cars lining School Lane in Newton Poppleford

"We had a very close call when a child popped out onto the road and was very close to being hit. Next time it may not be a near-miss."

Parking wardens sometimes visited the road at the start or end of the school day, but Mr Hodgson claimed it was not in their remit to hand out fines for stopping on double yellow lines.

"The zigzags are a different kettle of fish – as long as there is the right signage with them, the enforcement officers can hand out an on-the-spot fine of £70," the plumber added.

"The slow traffic is a type of traffic calming, but the mayhem

that the lack of traffic flow causes outweighs any gains.

"At some times, it can take up to half an hour for traffic to move because of bad parking all the way down school lane."

A Devon County Council spokesman said: "We know that there have been problems on the road during school drop-off and pick-up times, and enforcement officers have previously helped the school to manage the situation.

"We're very happy to be in touch with the school again to work with them to enforce the restrictions and educate drivers to help address the problems."

From the Sidmouth Herald of May 27, 2016.