

# School Matters

The Fortnightly Newsletter from Newton Poppleford School

## Friday 26th September 2025

### Message from Mr Pope

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today we have said a huge thankyou to the PTFA and all the other organisations and people that have helped fundraise for our new play equipment and sensory garden area. The children are using these in earnest now and are having the most wonderful time. There are so many organisations and people to thank and we have really valued having various representatives come in today so that we could do so in person. Our thanks to all of the below as well as many others:

- Edwin and Joyce Hill Charitable Trust
- Gibbons Family Trust
- Norman Family Trust
- Newton Poppleford Table Tennis Club
- South Coast Liquid Screeding for funding our Colour Run which was the biggest fundraiser of last year.
- Newton Poppleford Community Larder.
- Devon County Council Locality Grant.
- ASDA Cashpot
- Sidmouth Lions
- Those involved in The Sri Lankan Curry night
- Mr Filer Children's Tennis Club
- Laura Broughton – Cake Raffle Fundraiser for our school which is such a critical role.

Continued . . .

[www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk](http://www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk)

01395 568300

✉ [admin@newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk)

For any Twilight after school club matters, please phone the main school number.

Our children have begun to enjoy our enrichment calendar for the year. Exeter City Community Trust Joy of Movement have been working with Year 5. Children from the school took part in the Budleigh Salterton Literacy Festival quiz and Nic George (a local artist) working with children from our school and others to produce some wonderfully creative donkey statues (designed by our pupils) for a display at Kennaway House in the coming weeks.

We are looking forward to more exciting and fun filled events across this half term including a STEM robotics engineering workshop for years 4 and 5; Dance Around the World enrichment days for years 1 – 6 and not to mention our Year 6 Residential that takes place in two weeks time. We are sure they will all be really enjoyable

## PLACES AVAILABLE IN PRE-SCHOOL

We are currently advertising the places we have available in our amazing pre-school – Little Popples. If you know of anyone who would be interested, do please share this far and wide to support the school.

We would like to apologise to those experiencing problems with Marvellous Me. We have now been made aware that the APP will be being discontinued this year. This seems to be the route cause of the problems as the company who run the APP are not investing in debugging as they have done previously. The school needs to carry out due diligence in sourcing our replacement service to ensure it meets our needs and requirements as well as data and safety standards. Once again, apologies for the inconvenience to any parent affected and frustration caused. I will update parents as soon as we are able in terms of time-scales.

Finally, this coming week we also are hosting our governors for their annual awareness day as they prepare for another year providing strategic direction and oversight for our school which is such a critical role.

We hope you enjoy your weekends and that the sun remains shining for everyone.

Mr Pope



**Devon Family Hubs**  
**Let's Talk, Read & Play**

Let's Talk, Read and Play is a 5 week intervention group for children aged 2 years to 2 years, 11 months, and their parents/carers.

This group is for children who are struggling with their language and communication

**GIVE US A CALL**  
**0800 538 5458**  
**MONDAY TO FRIDAY**  
**10AM TO 4PM**

[www.devon.gov.uk/children-families-education/child-family-support/family-support/family-hubs/](http://www.devon.gov.uk/children-families-education/child-family-support/family-support/family-hubs/)

Devon County Council



**Devon Family Hubs**

**FREE FAMILY ADVICE AND GUIDANCE**

For Parents/Carers of children aged 0-19 and Young People aged 13 and over (25 with SEND or care leaver)



**Need help?**

The Single Sessions Available in person, via phone or online

[www.devon.gov.uk/children-families-education/child-family-support/family-support/family-hubs/](http://www.devon.gov.uk/children-families-education/child-family-support/family-support/family-hubs/)

**0800 538 5458**  
Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm

## Pre School



Pre School enjoyed exploring Adventure Island for signs of Autumn. We collected leaves, acorns and apples. We talked about the various size, shape and colour of the leaves and used buckets to collect it all. We also enjoyed a climb and a play in the mud kitchen.

### Year 3

In Adventure Island this week, Year 3 used natural materials to make their own paint so they could try cave painting with willow paint-brushes. They worked in groups to gather, crush and mix natural materials such as blackberries, charcoal, mud apples and water. The paintings looked fantastic and helped Year 3 imagine what it was like for Stone Age people to paint in caves over 40,000 years ago.



### Reception



The Barn Owls are taking responsibility for preparing their snack, passing it around and making sure everyone uses their manners!

## Year 2



Year 2 enjoyed exploring making marks at the beginning of their art unit on exploring and drawing nature. They used natural items around them to create brushes and make marks to create a whole class piece of art inspired by the artist Lorna Crane.

## Year 1



Year One had a fantastic time in Adventure Island. They climbed trees, built dens, cooked in the Mud Kitchen, relaxed in hammocks and swung on the tyre. They also showed excellent listening skills and tidied up beautifully at the end of the session.

## PTFA Update

Hi everyone,

We're excited to officially launch our brand-new PTFA events ticketing platform, **PTA Events**. We'd love our parents and carers to sign up!

With this platform you'll be able to:

- ✦ Book tickets for events
- ✦ Pre-order refreshments, raffle tickets and more
- ✦ Volunteer for events and manage rotas
- ✦ Handle payments securely, all in one place

The aim is to make things easier for everyone – less cash handling, smoother organisation, and more time to enjoy the fun side of our events 🎉. It should also make it simpler for families to support the PTFA without needing to go through the school office 🙌

To create your account, please visit <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/newtonpoppta>

We can't wait to see you signed up and hear your feedback!

### 🌺 🌴 Tropic Night 🌴 🌺

We're delighted to invite you to Tropic Night – a fabulous evening of fun, relaxation, and a little bit of pampering! 🌴 🍹

- 📅 Friday 21st November, 19:00
- 📍 Newton Poppleford School Hall
- 🎫 Tickets: £10 (includes a welcome drink + delicious sharing charcuterie board)

On the night you can enjoy:

- 🎮 Fun games
- 🎟 Raffle prizes
- 🧴 A little extra luxury – treat yourself to a mini facial or hand massage for just £5!

It's the perfect chance to unwind with friends, enjoy some treats, and support a great cause.

Tickets are limited – grab yours now! 🔗 <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/newtonpoppta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=102014>

Dates for the diary:

**Thu 23 Oct**  
Year 5 Cake Sale

**Fri 7 Nov**  
Bonfire BBQ Night

**Thu 20 Nov**  
Year 4 Cake Sale

**Fri 21 Nov**  
Adult Event: Tropic Night

**Sat 6 Dec**  
Christmas Fair

Newton Pop PTFA

# TROPIC Party

FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 19:00  
 £10 TICKET AVAILABLE VIA PTA EVENTS

£5 FOR FACIAL OR HAND MASSAGE

FREE WELCOME DRINK

AT THE SCHOOL HALL

## CHOOSE US AS YOUR LOCAL CAUSE

Co-op Members can support us through the Local Community Fund  
[membership.coop.co.uk/causes](http://membership.coop.co.uk/causes)



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YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

Waitrose Community Matters

We support local good causes. You decide who gets what.



### Donation to PTFA for every booking made!

With Jo White at Travel Counsellors



TRUSTED TRAVEL



1% of total holiday value donated to PTFA for any families or referrals from Newton Poppleford School (up to £100 per booking)

Over 20 years experience, no extra charges, all types of holidays covered, fully protected holidays and I genuinely care! Plus together we can do a little to help our awesome school



Jo.White@TravelCounsellors.com  
 WhatsApp 07967756543

## Dates for the Diary

Dates for the Diary	
<b>September</b>	
<b>17/09/2025</b>	Budleigh Salterton Festival - Children's Literacy Quiz
<b>23/09/2025</b>	Year 3 + 4 Cross Country - Selected Children only
<b>24/09/2025</b>	Year 5 + 6 Cross Country - Selected Children only
<b>October</b>	
<b>01/10/2025</b>	Dance Around the world
	Year 3 + 4 mixed 6-a side football ( selected children only)
<b>02/10/2025</b>	Dance around the world
<b>08/10/2025</b>	Year 5 + 6 Mixed 6-a side Football ( Selected children only)
<b>16/10/2025</b>	Year 3 and Year 6 East Devon Country Side rangers
<b>22/10/2025</b>	Year 1 + 2 Multi-skills Festival
<b>27-31/10/2025</b>	HALF TERM

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.**

Please go to The Devon county Council Admission page to apply

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/children-families-education/education/school-admissions/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/>