

# SCHOOL MATTERS

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FROM NEWTON POPPLEFORD SCHOOL

FRIDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2021

## Gentle Reminder

We are not sending Data Collections sheets home this year BUT if any of your details ( particularly email addresses or phone numbers) have changed please let us know either by email or in person at the School Office.

- Children in classes 3,4,5 and 6 need to bring in their **Christmas Jumpers** for Monday as they will be recording the Christmas Performance then.
- **School finishes next Friday, 17th December at 1.30pm.**
- If you received School Matters by email, there is a further attachment about a public consultation by Devon County Council about School Admissions. This is also available on the school website.
- The AR word count for the whole school is at present:- 14,037,942.



As you are aware, today is Christmas Jumper Day. We are collecting donations for the charities: 'Neuroblastoma' and Children's Hospice South West, in memory of Finley. To make a donation, go online via School Gateway. A payment request has been set up called 'Christmas Jumper Day'.

[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.

# School Meals Reminder

Every day next week there are changes to the menu, as it is the last week of term.

## Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Sausages, pasta, potatoes and veg. of the day

Jacket Potatoes

## Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas dinner (pre-booked)

(No jacket potatoes available)

## Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Fish & Chips

Jacket potatoes

## Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Southern Fried Chicken, pasta, potatoes and veg. of the day

Jacket Potatoes

## Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Party food provided by the canteen

(No jacket potatoes available)



Please note that no jacket potatoes are available on Tuesday and Friday (Christmas Dinner day and Christmas Party day). There is a separate vegetarian option. On all other days, the vegetarian option is a jacket potato (plain, cheese or beans). Jacket potatoes with tuna are also on offer.

## From the PTFA

Sadly our Christmas Fair was cancelled at the weekend. Blown away by a hurricane and then drenched by a monsoon (I'm not a weather girl, but I'm fairly confident in the accuracy of those descriptions...) Such a shame that we didn't get to share with you all the magical Winter Wonderland we worked so hard to create. Huge and heartfelt thanks to everyone who worked so hard in advance of the Fair and to everyone who jumped into action to rescue soggy stuff. We are trying desperately to recoup some of the money lost, so...

## Christmas Hamper Raffle

We are holding our fabulous festive raffle on **Tuesday 14th December**.

Please fill in this Google form to order your tickets then pay for your them via the payment button on School Gateway, or we will accept cash (in an envelope labelled with your name please) taken to the office.

Please provide a contact mobile phone number or email to receive your electronic raffle tickets (Personal information will not be retained by the PTFA after the raffle date).

<https://forms.gle/x1rJ3HxyGC5XhhjM6>

**Don't forget that the Deadline for buying tickets is this Monday 13th at 3pm!!**

## Christmas Goodies Playground Sale

We have a beautiful selection of items that were lovingly made or donated to sell at the Fair, these will be on sale after school in the playground on **Tuesday 14th December** (weather dependent, obv's!)



**Easyfundraising** - the site includes over 4000 shops (including ebay, Argos, ASOS , Etsy and M&S) and sites (including insurance, mobile, utilities and travel) that will donate to the school. It's really easy, just use the Easyfundraising portal or app every time you shop: <http://bit.ly/2MXWSqJ>.



**Amazon Smile** - will donate with qualifying purchases through the Amazon Smile website: <https://amzn.to/2Ls2vNu>.

## Christmas Dates

The children's **Christmas Lunch** is on **Tuesday, 14th December** and the party day is on **Friday, 17th December**. School finishes at 1.30pm on that last day of term.

## Help sought

A parent with a child in year 2, who lives in Sidmouth, is asking if anybody is able to help with picking up her child some mornings and dropping them off at school. The bus service at the moment is quite irregular and it is difficult to get to school on time in the mornings. Pick up from Lidl or Manstone Avenue.

Please pass on any details to the school office for the parent to contact them directly .

## For Parents of Little Popples children

If you would like to apply for 30-hour funding for the Spring term 2022, you need to have applied to HMRC and received a code by 31st December 2021 in order for us to claim funding for next term. There are further details on how to apply for this under the 'Little



Popples' tab of the school website. For parents who already have a valid code, please just check the expiry date of your child's eligibility and reconfirm if required.

Look out for an Adventure Island Update in the last School Matters of 2021.

# GYPSY, ROMA, TRAVELLER AND SHOWMEN MYTH BUSTERS

## All Travellers are foreigners...

Gypsies have been a part of Great Britain for well over 500 years and have been a key part of our culture. Irish and Scottish Travellers are descendants of nomad people who traditionally populated mainland Britain and Ireland. Roma descendants have migrated from Northern India since the 10th century.



## They aren't protected by law and it is just a lifestyle...

Romany Gypsies, Scottish, Welsh and Irish Travellers are all ethnic minorities, recognized under UK law (Equalities Act 2010) and the Irish government.

## Most of travellers live illegally...

A census of the Gypsy and Traveller caravans is conducted twice each year. This showed that 88% of caravans were on authorised and rented sites. The

minority of Travellers will stay on unauthorised sites as they have no other place to stay and it is the duty of the local authority to provide enough safe sites.

## All traveller boys take part in 'grabbing'...

Made popular by the television show 'My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding', it is where Traveller girls are 'grabbed' as part of a courtship ritual, which sees boys forcing a kiss. The majority of Travellers have never heard of this and courtship occurs through careful supervision.

## They don't pay taxes...

Travellers and Gypsies pay taxes like everyone else. They may seem wealthier however, this is more likely due to the fact that they are very hard working and invest their money in vehicles, caravans and nice furniture instead of hundreds of thousands on a house.

## Travellers are dirty and leave mess everywhere they go...

Travellers, particularly English gypsies and Irish Travellers, live very clean and tidy lives. Their homes are usually pristine and they take great pride in their belongings. This is part of their culture and customs. Many Traveller's outside space, particularly travelling Travellers, is also their work place and so it can look messy and unkempt. When local authorities provide suitable rubbish disposal, fly tipping and rubbish is rarely a problem.

## We can't learn anything from Travellers...

Many Traveller communities have a wealth of history and knowledge. Their lifestyle includes strong family values, they look after their elderly relatives in their homes as well as rearing children with good morals of respect and hard work. Their custom is also to ensure that children learn crucial life skills such as running a business, cooking, cleaning and hands-on skills. They are also great at managing money, with very few accumulating any form of debt.

