

SCHOOL MATTERS

THE FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER FROM NEWTON POPPLEFORD SCHOOL

Friday 3rd March 2023

A Message From Mr Pope

World Book Day is upon us and we have had a new school boss running things today.

What a fantastic morning it has been! Listening to the children's favourite stories and authors is testament to the support you give them at home. As a school, we are passionate about reading. It is the foundation of so much of the children's learning and provides a gateway for them to the wider curriculum in so many subjects. I was lucky enough this week to have received some wonderful letters based on the Year 1 book *The Bog Baby*. The writing was extremely impressive and the children were hugely enthused by their learning. It was wonderful to see the teachers efforts in promoting a love of reading in action and my thanks go to all of them for doing so.



It has been a lovely two weeks and the children have come back into school with such a positive and refreshing attitude since the half term break. We are as always making improvements to our curriculum and the teachers in KS2 are launching a new approach to guided reading this half term. Please look out for the dates in your diary as we have parents evening in the last week of this term. Almost all parents attended an appointment in the Autumn term and we are very hopeful that the same will be true for the Spring and very much look forward to seeing you then.
Best Wishes,
Mr Pope



Year 1 Environmental Workshop

Year 1 had an environmental workshop on Tuesday. We learnt all about how to sort our rubbish into different groups for recycling. We had to identify what material each item was made of, before we chose the correct container. We also learnt about how different materials get recycled and what they can get turned into.



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.

Year 3 Trip To Lyme Regis

On Wednesday 22nd February, Year 3 had an amazing trip to Lyme Regis, where we learned lots about Mary Anning and fossils. We started the day with checking our bags, finding a buddy and making sure we knew who our responsible adult for the day was. Then we got on the coach and made our way to Lyme Regis museum.

In the museum, we met Chris who taught us all about fossils. He explained what ammonites and ichthyosaurs look like, how fossils have been formed and how to find and recognise them on the beach. After this we had a close look at the geology room of the museum, where there are lots of fossils on display, including an ichthyosaurus that Mary Anning found. Some of the bones and the skulls in this room were much bigger than we ever expected. After lunch we visited Mary Anning's statue at the end of the walkway and her grave on the cemetery close to the museum. We then walked to the beach, looked at the different layers in the sedimentary rocks in the cliffs and saw some huge ammonites which had fallen out of the cliff. Chris told us how important it is to stay well away from them as the cliffs can crumble at any time. We then went onto the beach to look for fossils... and we found lots! We found ammonites, fool's gold and even found a vertebrate of an ichthyosaurus! Chris told us we had done exceptionally well! We then packed up our bags and made sure we kept our fossils safe in them, before getting back on the coach to school. Thanks to the enthusiastic, well-behaved children and thanks to the adults who were there to help us, we had a fantastic day out!



Adventure Island

Since returning to school after the half term break, years 1 and 2 have been very busy in the allotment. We have been digging, weeding, spreading compost and sowing seeds, all the while sharing our thoughts and ideas about what seeds need to grow into strong healthy plants. All classes will visit the allotment in the coming weeks and will be working in one another's beds in a collective way, ensuring everybody has plenty to do as we share out all of the jobs! Last week, years 3,4,5 and 6 learnt how to tie a timber hitch knot and then worked in teams to drag large log stumps around to create some different seating areas. It was brilliant to see the children working together and helping one another and I am sure they will find knowing how to tie a timber hitch handy for future sessions!



World Book Day 2023

Wow what amazing World Book Day Characters we had arrive at school today! We were blown away by the efforts made to create such wonderful book characters both in our school & pre-school. It was lovely to see the children so excited about dressing up and seeing pupils and staff try to guess who they were and what book they were from. Our staff team have also made a great effort with getting fully involved and dressing up as their favourite book characters. The pupils have enjoyed shared stories across the school & our World Book Day parade in the hall.



World Thinking Day

Thank you to all the Cubs, Beavers, Brownies, Rainbows and Scouts who came into school in their uniform. We held a special assembly to raise awareness of sustainability and how we all have a part to play in helping to care for our world.



Exmoor Challenge

Training is underway on Sunday for our present Year 6 pupils to take part in the Exmoor Challenge. Regrettably, this year is likely to be the last year where Mr & Mrs Vaughan are involved and we are looking to recruit a team of year 5 parents, who would be willing to 'learn the ropes' in order to give their children the opportunity to take part in next year's Exmoor Challenge. The best way to do this is to train parents up during this year's preparations. So far, a very small team of parents have responded to this but it would be a fantastic legacy, if we could establish an Exmoor Challenge Year 5 Parents Task Force to secure teams for next year and of course train the following year's parents up for 2025. Please could you let the school office know if you are willing to get involved.

Gentle Reminders & Important Information

Class Pages Spring 2 Curriculum Overviews have now been uploaded on the individual class pages on our school website. Please take a look at these.

Parking Please take care and park considerately outside our school. Do not park on the double yellow lines. We have had some instances when vehicles have been parked in a way which could prevent first response services from attending potentially life-threatening emergencies. Please be mindful of this when parking.

Parent Consultations Parent consultations will take place in the last week of March and details on bookings will be sent out soon.

Dogs Please keep dogs under control and on a lead when near our school. Maintain a safe distance from the main school entrance. Be mindful when children are in the vicinity as both children and dogs can get very excited.



Care Café

On the first Monday of every month come and share our warmth, hot drinks, and cakes. The first Care Café will be held on Monday 6th March 9:00am-10:30am. Support is available if needed from our Parent Support Advisor, Pastoral Lead and our SENDCO. With or without reason we welcome you to our Care Café.

Devon Primary SCITT

Devon Primary SCITT are currently recruiting for their course starting in September 2023, with school based placements across Devon. Come and find out more about the course by joining one of their informal open evenings (5.00-6:30pm.) Please see below the dates coming up for the open events.



WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY?

Have you considered teaching?



Devon Primary SCITT's award winning PGCE course has helped hundreds of people start successful and rewarding careers as Primary School Teachers.

We are currently recruiting for our course starting in September 2023, with school-based placements across Devon. Come and find out more about the course by joining one of our informal open evenings (5.00-6.30pm):

Tuesday 7th March - Online (Via Zoom)
Tuesday 28th March - Trinity Primary School (Exeter)
Tuesday 2nd May - Online (Via Zoom)

For more details or to book your place, please visit www.dpscitt.ac.uk or call 01392 790 164.



PTFA

Please see below all things PTFA. Including the exciting Easter Eggstravaganza & our upcoming Book Fair!



EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA!

31st March 2023
3.30-5pm | At School

EGG HUNTS! STALLS! & LOTS MORE!
GAMES! RAFFLE!



★
★
★

Newton Popleford School PTFA

In association with

Winstone's

love books, love reading

Will you be a...

BOOK BUDDY?

What is your favourite children's book?
Could you donate a copy of it to our school library?

Pop into Winstone's, High Street, Sidmouth
Buy a book for our school library
Write a note to go in the front of your donated copy
that tells us why you love it!

Give the gift of stories to our children



PTFA Pre-loved Uniform Shop

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Contact Camille to ask about
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- Donations of pre-loved uniform welcome any time. Please leave with the school office.
Thank you!



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NEW **buyy** **THE CREEK** £6.99

NEW **THE GECKO AND THE ECHO** £6.99

NEW **HAVE WE ANIMAL WIZARD?** **ALESIA DIXON** £7.99

27th - 31st March 2023
In the school hall all week after school!

And at the Easter Eggstravaganza
On Friday 31st March!

Scan the QR code to pay online!



Accelerated Reader

The whole school word count for Accelerated Reader is: **29,337,390**

Dates for Your Diary Up to Half-Term

Monday 6th March:	Care Café Pre-School/ Reception Spring walk
Tuesday 7th March:	Year 5 School Trip
Wednesday 8th March:	Steve Manning Story Teller Year 4 Year 5/6 Girls Football
Thursday 9th March:	Year 1 PTFA Cake Sale
Friday 10th March:	Cricket Engagement Day
Friday 17th March:	Red Nose Day Comic Relief
Wednesday 22nd March:	Year 3/4 Tag Rugby Mega fest
Thursday 23rd March:	Oral Health Team In School
Monday 27th March:	Scholastic Book Fair (until Thursday) Parents Evening Week
Wednesday 29th March:	Year 2 Multiskills Festival
Friday 31st March:	Last Day Of Term PTFA Easter Eggstravaganza
Monday 3rd April-Friday 14th April:	Easter Holidays
Monday 17th April:	First Day Back For Pupils