

SCHOOL MATTERS

THE FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER FROM NEWTON POPPLEFORD SCHOOL

Friday 26th May 2023

A Message From Mr Pope

Dear Parents & Carers,

The last two weeks at school have seen some fantastic learning experiences for the children. The pond area in Adventure Island has been teeming with life and the children have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the thousands of baby frogs and other wildlife that have appeared. Outdoor learning is a vital feature of our curriculum and is really valued by the staff team. This week we have also welcomed a visit from the Devon Education Team and our school advisor. The school has received positive feedback for our work on developing and mapping our new curriculum and we continue to work hard on raising standards and providing an excellent educational experience for all our children.

I am also writing to inform you of some staffing changes in the school. Miss Gaston will be leaving at the end of the academic year. Miss Gaston is joining a school in North Devon for personal reasons and we would like to wish her all the best. Miss Gaston has been an excellent teacher in our setting and has had a hugely positive impact on all the children she has taught. The school will be advertising for this role and it offers an amazing opportunity for the right candidate. This past week has also seen Miss Habbishaw successfully gain a role elsewhere as a Deputy Safeguarding Lead. Again, I want to wish her all the best in a role that is both challenging and rewarding.

Next term, we have lots of wonderful opportunities for the children to learn and develop beyond the curriculum. We will be holding a sports week which will involve our pupil leaders and some healthy competition. We will also be taking part in Diversity Week to celebrate our differences and the importance of accepting everyone. We put a huge emphasis on this in school as we want all our children to feel a sense of belonging at Newton Poppleford.

As part of our curriculum next half term, each year group will be studying a theme of climate change and/ or sustainability. As part of this, different year groups will be looking at various different themes including ocean plastic, fair trade, global farming, and deforestation issues as well as climate change. We hope the children enjoy learning about these important themes. We will be holding an assembly on the first day back to launch this whole school endeavour.

Finally, I hope that you all enjoy the sunshine over the half-term break and we will see all the children on Tuesday 6th June.

Best Wishes,

Mr Pope

Pre-School Gardening

In the allotment, Pre-School children have been busy watering and have planted some Swiss chard, tomatoes, and a butternut squash plant. They also had great fun on the slope, and racing cars down a giant car run!

Attendance:

Children's attendance at school is of vital importance and we have a constant focus on improving attendance. As a school we would like to remind parents of guidance regarding unauthorised absence and the resulting school action (10 sessions or more equates to 5 full days of absence).



www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk

☎ 01395 568300

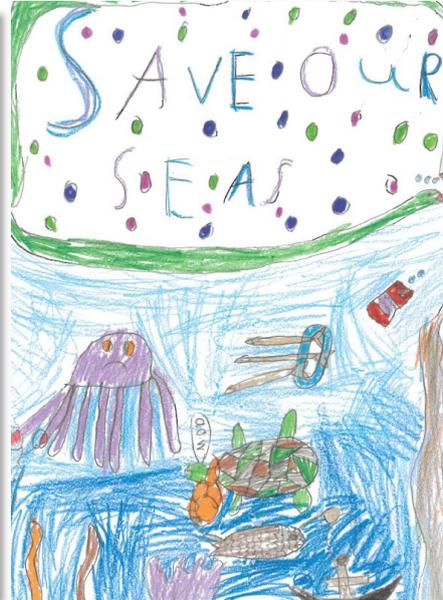
✉ admin@newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk

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

Year 1 Letter From Prime Ministers Office

Last week, Year One was inspired by our story 'The Secret of Black Rock' and the issues it raises about plastic pollution in our oceans. The children decided to take action by making posters highlighting the issue. We were going to put them up at school but after discussion, we wanted to make sure we spread our urgent message as far as we could. So we decided to write to the Prime Minister! Just under a week later, we received a reply from 10 Downing Street, explaining what the government was doing to tackle the problem. We've discovered that the best thing you can do, if you're worried about something is to take action and make your voice heard. In the words of Greta Thunberg, 'No one is too small to make a difference.'

Mr Rishi Sunak
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA
Friday 12th May 2023




10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA
www.gov.uk/Number10

From the Direct Communications Unit

17 May 2023

Dear Mr Sunak,

We are the Snowy Owl Year One Class at Newton Popleford Primary School in Devon. We were on the news this week because of the storm and the floods.

We need your help. We live by the sea here and we are very worried about the pollution in the sea. We don't want any more plastic pollution to end up in the ocean because it is bad for the creatures and can kill them. We have made posters and some of us have written you letters. We want you to put the posters up where you work for everyone to see.

We want no more rubbish in the sea, we want everyone to take it home with them and put it in the bin. We want the sea to be clean. The sea is not a bin. Even in the city, when you drop something, it can go in the drains and end up in the sea. Help us please! Please try and spread our message around the country and tell us what you are doing to help.

Yours Sincerely,

Year One

Newton Popleford PrimarySchool
School Lane
Newton Popleford
Devon EX11 0EL

The Pupils
Year One
Newton Popleford Primary School
School Lane
Newton Popleford
Devon
EX11 0EL

Dear Pupils

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to thank you for your correspondence about the important matter of plastic pollution.

Plastic plays an important role in the modern world, but plastic pollution can threaten our environment. Plastic is affordable, durable and has many uses. Without plastic, it could be harder to keep medical equipment sterile, food fresh or many daily items easily available. Yet, avoidable plastic waste can build up across our cities, countryside, and seas. Experts suggest human beings have produced 8.3 billion tonnes of plastic since the 1950s, which may increase to 34 billion tonnes by 2050. Without co-operation and additional effort from Governments, businesses, and civil society this could place a lot of stress on wildlife and our natural surroundings.

The Government has implemented a series of important policies to help. In 2015, the Government placed a charge on disposable plastic carrier bags and saved 7.4 billion bags in the year 2019-20 alone. In 2018, the Government announced its 25 Year Environment Plan promising to make all plastic packaging recyclable or reusable by 2025 and eradicate avoidable plastic waste by 2042. In the same year, the Government banned microbeads from shower gels and soaps preventing thousands of miniature plastics entering the ocean with every shower. Then, in 2020, the Government went on to ban single-use plastic straws, drink stirrers and cotton buds, stopping yet more problem plastics entering our delicate ecosystems.

Today, the Government continues to work hard to move our communities away from single-use culture completely. Every one of us can play a part to create a brighter, greener future free from problem plastic. You have already taken an important step by writing to the Prime Minister and sharing your concerns.

Year 1 Golden Hind Trip

On Friday 26th May Year 1 visited the Golden Hind in Brixham.



Year 2 Archive Session

Year 2 had a morning session with the National Archives looking at how we know facts from the past and how to use different kinds of sources. Then we got to explore the life of Amy Johnson and Princess Ademola from different documents.



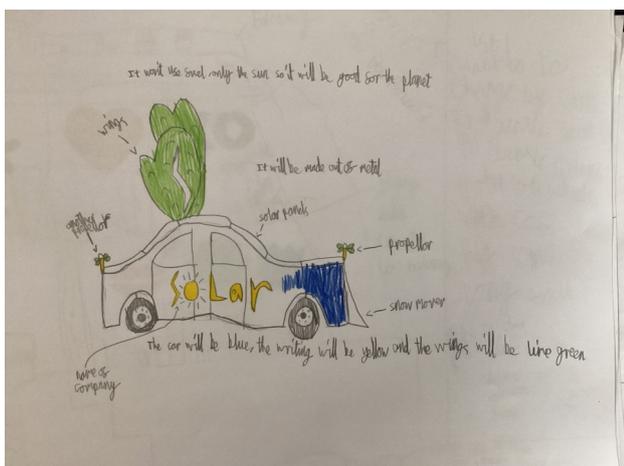
Exmoor Challenge

Congratulations to all who took part in The Exmoor Challenge on Saturday. The Year 6 pupils did amazingly well to finish the challenge and take the correct route! A few blisters and a graze didn't stop them from completing The Exmoor Challenge! As a school, we are very proud of their achievement!



Year 4 Engineering Session

On Wednesday, Year 4 joined students across the UK and world-renowned engineer Ario Van Der Ham, who is the Co-Founder of Lightyear and Chief Technology Officer, and is working to manufacture the world's first solo car. During the 1 hour session online, Year 4 took part in an engineering challenge of their own and designed a car of the future. A great session meeting the engineer and the children produced some fantastic designs.



PE Assembly

The last week of the half term saw our school welcome two students from Exeter College for a week of work experience. But these students are future stars in the world rugby union. England U18 and Sidmouth RFC Ellie Wood were joined by Exeter chiefs, Devon and Withycombe RFC Matt Burke. Both took part in all aspects of the PE curriculum. The pair also gave an assembly on the importance of team sports on mental health. Ellie also gave an assembly to all the girls across all age groups on her sporting journey to encourage other girls to take up sports. Ellie and Matt also spoke to the children with regard to their pathways in sport and how they have gotten to where they are so far. The positive influence this week has had on some of the children cannot be underestimated and to have two such young, successful sportspeople with us has really engaged and enthralled them. The children have thoroughly enjoyed having these two fine young role models around the school, and I'm sure a number have been inspired to take up sports they may never have thought of. We would like to thank them both for their time!



Life Safety

We were visited by Guy Russell and his colleague Lily who came to talk to us about Sea Safety. Guy and Lily are life-guards on Sidmouth Beach, as well as both have been involved with Sidmouth Lifeboat. They talked to us about who to call if we see someone in trouble at the beach and all about the different flags we might see flying and what they mean. Remember, if you see something wrong or someone is in trouble on the coast, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard!



Adventure Island

We now have a den building kit available during sessions with forked sticks, tarps, camouflage nets, pegs, rope, and mallets. Children have enjoyed creating a wide variety of dens and I have seen some brilliant teamwork. The bug hotel is now finished and is located between Adventure Island and the allotment to give our bugs somewhere to shelter as they journey between the two! Children in years 1 & 2 have been learning to identify trees by their leaves so prepare to be impressed next time you go for a woodland walk! Just a reminder that children need to wear long trousers and long sleeves to avoid ticks as the grass is very long in some areas. A hat must also be worn. Children can bring them in to change for their Adventure Island session. Thank you!



PTFA

Flood Victims: Doors of Distinction in Colaton Raleigh are offering local people who have damaged doors as a result of the recent floods a free replacement door in exchange for a small contribution to charity. They have nominated Newton Pop PTFA as their chosen charity, we are extremely grateful to them and applaud their community spirit. If you think they can help you or anyone you know who needs help following the flooding, then please contact them at doorsofdistinction.co.uk or 01395 202069.

Book Fair: A huge thank you to everyone who supported the recent Book Fair, including the lovely team who set it up and ran it. This event has resulted in a whopping £355 worth of free brand new books for the school!

Summer Fete: eekkk it's coming!! Date to be confirmed very soon, but for now we are seeking the most fantastic raffle prizes that East Devon has to offer, our Grand Summer Raffle is famous for the incredible prize list and we're excited to make it bigger than ever this year! If you think you have a raffle prize we can't live without, please contact Georgia on 07967017726.



Care Café

On the first Monday of every month come and share our warmth, hot drinks, and cakes. Support is available if needed from our Parent Support Advisor, Pastoral Lead & SENDCO. With or without reason we welcome you to our Care Café. The next one will be held on Monday 12th June. Then the Care Café will run next on the 3rd July 2023.

Welcome to the May 2023 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents

Access to advice/help for parents and carers

With the half-term break almost here, the SCOMIS Online Safety newsletter reminds and signposts parents/ carers to organisations where they can find advice and/or help with Online Safety Issues.

Social Media Checklists are available from South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) booklets can be download to help set up profiles for:

[Facebook](#)
[Twitter](#)
[Instagram](#)
[Snapchat](#)
[Roblox](#)
[TikTok](#)
[Yubo](#)



Learn how to:

Stay safe
Set up parental controls
How to share with select followers
Block users
Report users
How to use 'Friends' lists
How to stay in control

Access the SWGfL's checklist for [Netflix](#) and learn how to:

How to set up children's accounts
How to add maturity ratings
How to block shows
How to lock profiles
How to turn autoplay on and off

NSPCC— Find out how to keep children Safe Online with help from the NSPCC's guides, including:

[Reporting Online Safety Concerns](#)

[Online Safety Guides](#)

[Resources for children with SEND](#)

[Internet Connected Devices](#)

Childnet.com Help, advice and resources for parents/carers including:

[Social media](#)

[Online bullying](#)

[Help and advice for 4-11 year olds](#)

- What to do if someone is mean to your child online
- How much time should you spend online

[Help and advice for 11-18 year olds](#)

- Gaming
- Social media
- Fake news
- Video Calls

[Parent's and carers Toolkit](#)

3 resources offering practical tips and advice on different aspects of keeping your child safe online. Download the toolkit [here](#)

Don't forget! Support for Grandparents

The [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) has published a resource to support grandparents with online safety. The guidance includes:

- how to respond if something goes wrong
- How to talk to your grandchild about their online life?
- Where to go for help or to report something worrying or inappropriate? Find out more [here](#)

Internet Connected Devices

Internet connected devices can send and receive data, respond to voice commands and be controlled remotely using a smartphone app.

Do you know the risks of using Internet connected devices?

Did you know that if Internet connected devices are not set up properly some of the risks include:

- other people might be able to access the device and content without you knowing such as a child's location
- you may not be able to see that someone's connected to your device, but sometimes developers or hackers can see your content or listen in to your conversations
- baby monitors, children's tablets, remote-control drone toys, can be hacked and used by people outside of your home
- Internet connected devices can collect personal data, including audio and visual data

Internet connected devices include:

- smart speakers, such as Google Home and Amazon Echo
- wearables, such as Fitbit and Apple Watch
- smart meters measuring household energy consumption
- toys with voice or image recognition
- robots, drones and other mechanical toys
- smart TVs
- smart appliances
- smart doorbells

For advice on setting up Internet connected devices and how to keep you and your child safe visit the NSPCC's site:

[Internet connected devices | NSPCC](#)

WhatsApp

CommonSense Media's review:



Parents need to know that WhatsApp Messenger lets users start video calls, send text messages, videos, photos, and audio messages to one or many people with no message limits or fees.

Privacy and security can be customized in settings including the ability to turn off location sharing. Users also have the ability to send disappearing photos, videos, and GIFs through the Status feature, which is similar to features on [Instagram](#) and [Snapchat](#). Read the developer's [privacy policy](#) for details on how information is collected, used, and shared.

NB. Recommended Age: 13 CommonSense = Age 14+
Read review in full [here](#)

Where to get help

Visit the [UK Safer Internet Centre's](#) website to access details and links for a number of organisations that can help with:

- Reporting Criminal Content Online and much more!

Need Help in the holidays?

Remember FREE advice is just a phone call away from NSPCC helpline:
0808 800 5002
Childline: 0800 1111

SCOMIS
Your ICT Partner

Dates for Your Diary Up to Half-Term

Monday 29th May– Friday 2nd June:	Half Term
Monday 5th June:	Inset Day
Tuesday 6th June:	First Day Back For Pupils
Tuesday 6th June - Friday 9th June:	Year 5 Bikeability
Friday 9th June:	Swimming Year 2 (1 of 5)
Monday 12th June:	Care Café
Tuesday 13th June:	Reception New Starters Evening
Friday 16th June:	Swimming Year 2 (2 of 5)
Monday 19th June:	Homophobia talk 5 and 6
Wednesday 21st June:	Pre School Open Day Reception New Starters Taster Session
Friday 23rd June:	Swimming Year 2 (3 of 5)
Monday 26th June:	MyBNK financial PSHE Y5 & 6
Monday 26th June –Friday 30th June:	School Diversity Week
Wednesday 28th June:	Sports Day
Friday 30th June:	School Photo's Swimming Year 2 (4 of 5)
Monday 3rd July:	Care Café
Tuesday 4th July:	Whole School Transition Day Reception New Starters Taster Session & Parent Lunch
Wednesday 5th July:	Budleigh Music Festival Reception Trip & Year 4 Trip
Friday 7th July:	Swimming Year 2 (5 of 5)
Friday 21st July:	Last Day Of Term
Wednesday 6th September:	First Day Back For Pupils