

# NEWSLETTER

'Capturing the imagination of young minds.'

July 2023



## September start date

Just to remind you that although staff will be in school early September, the first day back for pupils is **Wednesday 6th September.**

## Pre-loved uniform

If you have any uniform that your child/ren has grown out of (good condition only), there is a donation box inside the main Reception at school so that we can pass them on to others—this is an important part of keeping school uniform affordable for all. Thank you :)

## Good bye Year 6!

This year we bid farewell to the children in Windrush and Waveney - a very individual cohort who have brought much amusement and entertainment to the school over the years. I thought that their POPFEST performance was superb, as was their end of year show! Last term, they challenged themselves by completing a series of physical activities on the school residential - they did so well and I know that their families were incredibly proud. All the staff at POPS wish them the very best of luck as they move onto their new secondary schools and the next chapter of their learning.

## A message from Mrs O'Hara

We have almost made it to the end of the year and what a strong finish it has been. Both children and staff are ready for their summer break as we simply have not stopped. Children have continued to engage with the curriculum as well as enjoy the additional personal development events like POPFEST, Sports Days and school trips. Thank you very much to all families for your continued support - juggling children, schooling, work and life is no easy task these days, but by working together, we've helped each other. Wishing you all a restful August and looking forward to seeing you in September, excited and raring to go!



The run-up to POPFEST is always an exciting time in school and I love nothing more than walking down the corridors and hearing singing and performance poetry being practised with such enthusiasm and gusto! When the day arrived this year, we were slightly on edge because of the weather, but were fortunate that the rain held

off during pupil performances. Children from Nursery all the way through to Year 6 did not disappoint us with their concerts—there was much entertainment and our visiting audiences were incredibly supportive and encouraging.

An enormous thank you to our staff team for putting the concerts together with the children.

The Summer Fair in the afternoon was very well attended—there was music from our very own Rock bands as well as professionals later on. Families enjoyed the bottle tombola, raffles, stall games and of course, 'beat the goalie'! Much work goes into organising such events and so a super thank you goes to our team of FRIENDS who pulled together to make the event a success.



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This year, Sports Day drew the biggest crowds I have ever seen! In the morning, our youngest pupils gathered on the field to test their skills in a series of physical challenges. The mood was upbeat, the crowds were buzzing and the children were raring to go. At the start of each round, pupils ran, balanced beanbags, passed the baton, skipped and hula hooped with great sporting determination. I love that families get behind all pupils, encouraging them to the very end.

It was exactly the same for the afternoon session in KS2—there were so many spectators, that we had to bring more chairs out! It was run with the organisation and speed of a world athletic meet—pupils organised equipment, staff organised races ahead of time and our experienced judges on the finish line made the continuity of the races smooth. Pupils put their heart and soul into the races and the teamwork and support was simply wonderful to see. I am always proud of how our Sports Days are inclusive, making the day accessible for all pupils and families.

And last, but not least, our Nursery pupils had their Sports Day—our youngest children were very enthusiastic and did their best whilst being guided and encouraged by their families and staff. Nursery Sports Day is always a joy and this year was no different.



## Parent Football Tournament



Our traditional Parent Football Tournament was a great success this year. Due to recent mole activity, teams were forced to battle it out on an undulating pitch. However, teams did not moan or complain, they simply carried on, pushing themselves to the limit and encouraging each other, demonstrating good examples of positive play for our young spectators. I am pleased to say that at long last, the Year 6 parent team came top on the day. Our team Captain Mr Langhamer, was delighted to hand over the trophy—thank you all for taking part!

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## Personal Development and enhanced learning opportunities

### Year 5 ‘Deepover’

As part of this term’s learning, Year 5 spent the evening at The Deep in Hull. We arrived after it had been closed to the public, so we had the whole place to ourselves—amazing! Our evening included a tour of The Deep as well as a workshop around sustainability and the impact of pollution in our oceans. Perhaps the highlights were the visit to the penguin enclosure, where there was one cheeky penguin keen to show off his swimming and diving skills and also the new Jellyfish area, that is genuinely hypnotising. Children were thrilled by the fish they encountered, including the sharks, sword fish turtles and rays. As the lights dimmed, we settled down in our sleeping bags between the tanks, as sharks glided through the last remaining shafts of light—a great end to a fantastic evening.



### Year 6 Crucial Crew

To bring together, the Personal Development Safety Training that pupils have received through their years at POPPS, Year 6 pupils took part in the Crucial Crew experience. Crucial Crew is a multi-agency event organised through schools, by the police and supported by the fire service. They aim to raise awareness of safety issues to school children in Year 6 (aged 10-11).

Our Crucial Crew event took the form of a range of 20-minute interactive scenarios which covered a wide range of topics, each educating the children in a specific risk.

A scenario included the children having ‘hands on’ experience in what to do if they discovered a fire in the home and how to make an emergency call. They identified risks set up in the scenario and learned how to make their homes safer.

Other scenarios included:

Water Safety

Heathy Child Team

Internet Safety

IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Services)

Drugs and Alcohol Awareness

Anti-social Behaviour



The judicial visit earlier this term, the PSHE focus of Changing Me, Safe Relationships, and of course our relentless focus on internet and social media safety, means that our pupils in Year 6 are well equipped to cope with the challenges that life beyond primary school may bring.

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## Online safety over the holidays

The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children, and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers. Learning how to act safely when using the internet is an incredibly important part of safeguarding our children.

Poppleton Ousebank Primary School is committed to protecting our pupils online by working with National Online Safety- providing resources for **all parents and carers**.

The resources include Parents & Carers courses (presented by Myleene Klass), online video resources and weekly guides covering a huge range of topics, including:

Online Relationships	Online Gambling
Fake Profiles & Social Bots	Radicalisation, Terrorism & Extremism
Online Bullying	Age Inappropriate Content
Online Grooming	Copyright & Ownership
Child Sexual Exploitation	Hacking
Sexual Harassment & Violence	Fake News
Sexting	Online Fraud
Live Streaming	Online Reputation
Online Identity	Personal Data
Screen Addiction	Pornography
Online Challenges	Targeted Adverts & Pop-Ups
Overspending	The Dark Web
Social Media Platforms	Games & Trends



To create your account, please follow <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/poppleton-ousebank-primary-school> and complete your details. When you're set up, you'll be able to set '**Parent/Carer**' as your user type.

You can access National Online Safety online via any device- including via our brand-new smartphone app. To download the app, please go to:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/national-online-safety/id1530342372>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.nationaleducationgroup.nos>

Alternatively, search for 'National Online Safety' in the App Store/Google Play Store.

Answers to frequently asked questions and customer service can be accessed at <https://helpdesk.thenationalcollege.co.uk/helpcentre>.

There are constantly new apps and software introduced to young people and so being aware of them will be a help to parents.

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## Reading

We know that the more children read, the better readers they will become and the easier it will be for them to access the curriculum and future learning. Because of this, we recommend that all pupils continue to read and be read to, over the holidays. We ask that parents continue to encourage their children to become enthusiastic readers, perhaps reading signs or leaflets on your days out, or finding an author that they like. The local library is running a holiday reading challenge, so why not pop along and see what is available? Children can read comics, fiction and non-fiction books, just as long as they are reading. Younger children will benefit from revisiting their phonics as directed by class teachers. Please look out for the QR Codes being sent home—they will link you to the Read Write Inc learning videos so you can practice at home over the summer.



If you want to find out about new releases, then here is a useful link from School reading list: <https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/new-book-releases/our-picks-of-the-best-childrens-books-coming-out-in-summer-2023/>



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## New catering company

In September, we begin working with our new catering company, Hutchinsons. Hutchinsons is an independent, family-run business with a super reputation across York schools. They provide seasonal menus that include nutritious food to fuel pupil growth, learning and development. They will work with our school kitchen staff to suit our pupil preferences, as well as meet special dietary requirements. Our own catering professionals have already met with the representatives and are looking forward to new recipes - I have to admit, the menu looks amazing! The menu can be found on the school website and booking meals will continue through ParentPay

**Hutchison**  
CATERING

## POPS Kitchen gets 5 STAR award again!

Recently, a food safety officer from the local authority arrived unannounced to check that our school kitchen staff follows food hygiene law so that the food is safe to eat. At the inspection, the officer checked the following three elements:

- how hygienically the food was handled – how it was prepared, cooked, re-heated, cooled and stored
- the physical condition of the kitchen –including cleanliness, layout, lighting, ventilation, pest control and other facilities
- how staff managed ways of keeping food safe, looking at processes, training and systems to ensure good hygiene is maintained. The officer then assessed the level of confidence in standards being maintained in the future.



Mrs King and her trusted team of catering professional were obviously delighted in the 5 STAR outcome, which is a testament to their on-going hard work. Well done team POPS!

## POPS GOT TALENT!

Last week, the playground was busy with children rehearsing for the ultimate finale of the term—POPS Got Talent! Each year children throw themselves into the limelight, sharing their interests, talents and skills with their peers—an amazing and courageous thing to do! What I am always incredibly proud of, is how each contribution is welcomed and applauded by pupils—there is much respect and admiration for those who have the confidence to get on stage, and bizarrely, they are not always the children who are usually confident or outspoken, which makes it even more special.

This year we all gathered with great anticipation in the school hall—there were two acts per year group and a winning act for KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2. Our judges were Mrs Ahmed and Mrs Scott-Mills—our leaving ladies! The audience was absolutely enthralled by the performances, their eyes glued to the stage. There was singing, dancing, gymnastics, instrument playing—all incredibly entertaining. In the end, the decision was very difficult, but KS1 winners were 'The Rainbow Girls', Lower Key Stage 2 was 'SIX' and Upper KS2 was Isla. All pupils did an amazing job and the whole school thanks you for being brave enough to put yourself forward—fantastic job!



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## School Uniform

Before you all frantically rush out to the shops to stock up on next years uniform, here is a quick reminder about our expectations. We expect children to take pride in their appearance, which includes their school uniform, P.E kit, shoes and hair. Our uniform is designed to meet the DFE regulations to ensure the cost of school uniforms is reasonable and secures the best value for money. The DFE 'strongly encourage schools to have a uniform as it can play a key role in:

- promoting the ethos of a school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education'

### **Children require:**

- school sweatshirt/cardigan with the school logo – ordered from the school office.
- white cotton or polo shirt
- dark grey trousers or skirt
- black shoes (not combat style boots or trainers)
- grey socks or tights

In warmer weather, children may wear:

- red and white summer dress
- tailored grey shorts
- ankle socks

## P.E Kit

Children require:

- a draw-string P.E bag
- plain black shorts/skort
- plain white T-shirt.
- black indoor pumps
- black tracksuit for outside games
- trainers



**All uniform must be clearly labelled with your child's name.**