

NEWSLETTER

‘Capturing the imagination of young minds.’

Issue 1— September 2023



Some dates for your diary

September 29th – Macmillan
Coffee afternoon

October 18th – School and family
photos

Week commencing October 23rd
– Parent Evenings

November 17th – Children in
Need

November 13th – 18th Odd socks
Day on Monday and Anti bullying
Week – ‘Reach out’

November 19th – 25th Road Safe-
ty Week – Let’s talk about speed

November 24th – INSET Day

December 1st – TREE Day

December 6th – Festive film night

December 4th – Secrets
room begins

December 18th – Christmas
shows week – 18th Reception
shows, 19th Year 1 shows, 20th
Nursery shows, 21st Year 2
shows.

December 20th – Festive Day -
Whole school Christmas Dinner,
Christmas Fair after school

Message from Mrs O’Hara

Welcome back!

It was an absolute joy to see the children on our first day of term this year, and as expected, they were full of stories and tales from their holidays. Pupils have settled into their routines well, and there is already a great rapport between teachers and their new classes. Staff have spoken positively about the pupils’ attitudes to learning, which is always great to hear. We are looking forward to a successful year with the children, and we know that with parents as our partners, we can ensure that all our pupils have a super first term.

Don’t forget/ Did you knows

There is always much to celebrate in our school and lots going on, so as we get the ‘school juggling balls’ back in the air, I thought it would be useful to remind you of some the opportunities that we have in school and how you can find out more about them.

Clubs

We have a number of lunchtime and afterschool clubs that pupils are welcome to attend— some are run by staff and are free and others are run by external providers and so there is a charge. If you receive any benefits and would like your child to take part in a club with a charge, please contact the school office and they can talk you through how your child may attend.

September 2023 – April 2024

	Lunchtime - FREE			After school		
	Activity room – KS1	Upper School Corridor – KS2	Classroom / outside	Lower School Hall	Upper School Hall	Classroom
Monday	Year 1 Board Club	Chess Club KS2			Young Voices (September - January)	
Tuesday	Colour Me Calm Lower School	Year 4 Board Club		TOTAL SPORTS	TOTAL SPORTS	
Wednesday	Year 2 Board Club	Year 5 Board Club	KS2 Boys Football	TOTAL SPORTS	TOTAL SPORTS	
Thursday	Reception Board Club	Year 3 Board Club	KS2 Girls Football		TAEKWONDO	FILM CLUB – FREE KS2
Friday	Colour Me Calm Upper School	Year 6 Board Club	Coding Club Mr Smith’s classroom			

Mrs Fox is still recovering from her illness and so Dance Factory is still postponed for the time being whilst she recuperates.

Musical instrument lessons

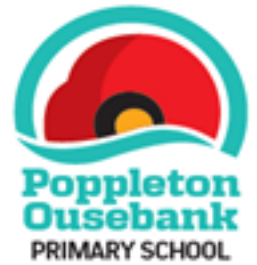
Pupils in school are welcome to learn how to play a musical instrument. Pupils can learn to play drums, acoustic or electric guitar, keyboard, piano, violin, a brass or a woodwind instrument. Pupils don’t always have to own an instrument as Music in York provides a service where families can hire instruments to see if their child takes to learning to play.

For further information, please contact the school office.

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Macmillan Coffee afternoon

Macmillan's Coffee event is Macmillan's biggest fundraiser to support people living with cancer. The first Macmillan Coffee Morning happened way back in 1990. It was a rather small affair with a simple idea: guests would gather over coffee and donate the cost of their cuppa to Macmillan in the process. It was so effective, they did it again the next year – only this time, they did it nationally. Since then, their Coffee event has raised over £290 million for Macmillan.

Every year we throw open the school kitchen hatch and welcome families and friends into school for a drink and a cake in support of the work that Macmillan do to support families affected by cancer. This year our coffee afternoon will be on Friday 29th September from 2.00pm and you are all invited for a tea/coffee and a chat. As an added bonus, pupils will sing to our visitors, providing light entertainment. What's not to love about this?

To ensure the event is successful and there is enough food to go round, we are asking for contributions of cakes, buns and biscuits to sell. Families can bring them into school from Thursday 28th. If you would like your sealed container back, please ensure it is named. Thank you.



Personal Development opportunity

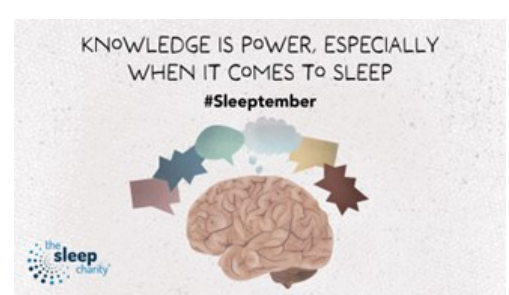
Young leaders

Developing pupil confidence and responsibility is something that we all want for our children. In school, our youngest children have tidying responsibilities and other monitoring roles like 'Register Monitor'. These jobs are often rotated and once pupils move into KS2, they can apply for a Young Leader position. There are a wide range of positions available, but they all focus on helping others and 'making a difference.'

In assembly next week, I will be launching our new round of applications which require completing and returning by Monday 25th. Children can be considered for the role of Eco Leader, Charity Leader, Playground Ranger, Board Club Leader, Build it Leader or Corridor Crew —explanations of these roles will be on the application form. Children will stay in the role for a term and can then change to another in the Spring Term if they choose. I look forward to meeting the new round of Young Leaders very soon!



As the days begin to get shorter, now is the perfect time to get on top of the bedtime routine, which is why The Sleep Charity promote 'Sleeptember.' Of course we think it's a brilliant idea, because good routines help children to know what to expect and a good night sleep helps the brain to rest. Here is a link to the Sleep Charity website that offers a variety of tips and advice to help settle children into a sleep routine. <https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/useful-resources/>



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Health Mela

The City of York is getting ready to host its **first ever Health Mela** which is a multi-cultural festival that celebrates health and well-being, provides free health checks, taster fitness classes, diverse entertainment, crafts and delicious food. Mela's have been taking place in other cities in the UK for decades now, but this will be the first one in York. Below is the flyer and a programme of activities.



Young Voices

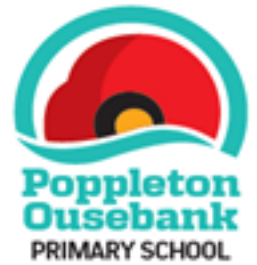
We're going again! It doesn't seem that long ago that pupils in Key Stage 2 were practising the songs for the Young Voices Concert in Sheffield, but it takes some organising! This week I sent out letters inviting pupils to join us for the 2024 concert—the date has been confirmed as Wednesday 21st February. If your child is in Years 3—6 and they would like to be involved in the most amazing arena concert, then please log onto ParentPay and complete the form. Rehearsals are after school on Mondays in the Upper School Hall from 3.15—4.15. Children can bring a drink and a snack with them.



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Play equipment

You may have noticed that a second green shed has appeared on the playground—this is the Scrap Shed for KS2. It will be filled next week and then children in Years 4 –6 will have the opportunity to learn how to be active and creative at breaktimes, by utilising the recycled contents of the shed. It has been incredibly successful in KS1, which is why with the support of FRIENDS, we got another one.

Unfortunately, over the holidays, the play equipment in the middle of the Lower School playground was condemned. It is over 10 years old and although we have had it repaired in the past, it is no longer feasible to do so. Our fundraising this term will focus on replacing it, FRIENDS are already coming up with some great ideas to get the area up and running again as soon as possible.

If you know of a charity or a company who can support us by donating funds to the cause, please do get in touch with school or a member of FRIENDS.

Team effort required

Our school grounds are wonderful and we are incredibly fortunate to have such a fantastic site. Unfortunately it takes a lot to keep up with the garden beds around the Reception area entrance and also the Vegetable plots by Year 1 and the Early Years. I have therefore asked FRIENDS to organise a group of green fingered volunteers who will be willing to come once every few weeks to keep the areas in check. If you can help, please let the school office know and someone will be in touch.

Early Years—The Nursery and Reception outdoor areas are vast and exciting, but they do take a lot of time to keep presentable for the children. We were wondering if there were any parents that could volunteer to be part of an Early Years team that comes in to school on a Friday afternoon, to reorganise, clear and present the outside areas, ready for Monday morning? The EYFS team finds it difficult to manage, so some extra pairs of hands would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to help, please let a member of the Early Years team know.

Online Safety

As always, we start the year by focusing on responsible use of social media and online safety. This week our children took part in the Back to school, Be an Internet Legend assembly by Google, which is an interactive virtual event that teaches children to be safer, more confident online explorers. This is an enhancement to our online safety curriculum, as it is also covered in our PSHE teaching as well as in Computer lessons.



Be Internet Legends

Families can also keep up to date and informed by making use of the free access to the school's National College website account. By creating an account as a parent, you can take short courses that will help you support your child at home, raise your awareness of making devices safe as well as being at the forefront of new apps and games that your child may begin to play. All you need to do is use the link here and off you go. <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/poppleton-ousebank-primary-school>

School Curriculum

This term, we launch our updated BOLD Curriculum. We have made a number of tweaks to the children's studies and the new curriculum overviews can be seen on the school website under Curriculum. Our curriculum development continues to be reflective of the children as learners, ensuring that it is challenging and interesting for all our pupils.



Could I please ask parents to read the contents of the School Planner and also sign the Home School Agreement. Thank you