



Poppleton Ousebank PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Capturing the imagination of young minds'

Newsletter - Friday 4th April 2025

A message from Miss Collier

There have been many, many highlights in the last half term, no wonder it has gone so fast! Thank you to all the children and staff who have worked incredibly hard this last term. We are incredibly proud of them all. We wish you all a lovely Easter break.

Early Years/KS1



N - The children in Nursery have been busy planting beans and sunflowers.



R- All the children in Reception have loved working with Mrs Johnson



Y1 - The children had a great time at The Yorkshire Wildlife Park



Y2 - A fabulous day out was had at York Art Gallery for the William Morris exhibition

KS2



Y3 - A fabulous effort was made for World Book Day



Y4 - The trip to Jorvik led to Viking battles and a wealth of mythical stories



Y5 - A real life Battle of Hastings took place



Y6 - One of their highlights was reading with the younger children on World Book day.

Staffing update - Sadly, we say farewell to Mrs Johnson at the end of this term as she leaves us after more than 21 years of service. Mrs Johnson has been an integral part of our school. Her unwavering commitment, passion for teaching and genuine love and kindness for our children has left a mark on so many families over the years. Thank you so much, we will miss you!

We are excited to announce that Miss Gorwood has a very exciting Easter break ahead of her. She will return in the summer term with a new name, Mrs Colman. We wish the new Mr and Mrs Colman all our love and best wishes on their very special day.

Photo consent - In the summer term we are getting ready to share with you more photos on Dojo. As part of this we are updating all photo consent to include images on Dojo, the school website and newsletters. Please complete this quick [consent form](#). If we do not have your consent we will not use your child's photo on any of these platforms.

Save the date! Staying safe online Tuesday 3rd June 6:30pm - In order to support parents navigating this ever changing world of technology we have organised a special event to support parents in keeping their children safe online. We will have a number of guest speakers who will be able to give parents a current picture of the online risks children are facing. There are a number of fabulous experts in the field including Professor Lisa Henderson, Head of psychology and Dr Emma Sullivan, University of York, Researchers on Channel 4's SWIPED. Anna Sarjantson from Screen Safe as well as the Director of Public Health. Due to the content that will be shared during the evening it is not appropriate for children to attend this event.

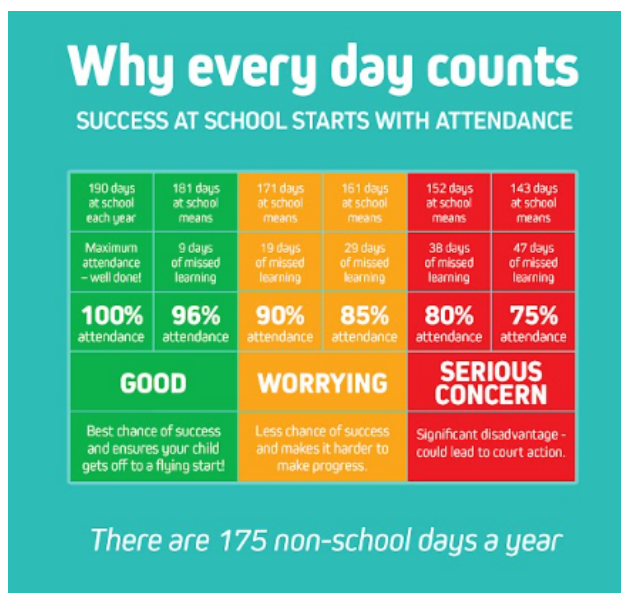
Smartphone Free - We aim to be a fully 'Smartphone Free school' by September 2025. Smartphones and smart watches will not be allowed on school premises. We please ask that if you feel your child needs a phone at primary age, then you look to purchase a 'brick phone' as a basic communication device.



Classes 25/26 - At the start of next term teachers will be reviewing the balance of classes for next academic year. We will review this annually to ensure the balance of every class is right. Please be reassured we will not make any unnecessary changes. This will be minimal and in some years may require no change at all. Just like adults, children cope with changes and transitions in different ways, some people breeze through with excitement and others feel anxious and need more support. At POPS we are very mindful of these differing needs and we plan our transition to new classes carefully and with a great deal of thought. You play a vital role in supporting these changes and helping this to be a positive experience for our children. Be positive! Your reaction will strongly influence your child. Please talk about the positive elements of change; new experiences, new opportunities, new topics and meeting new people while also focusing on the constants for your child, the things that will be the same.

Emergency details - Please ensure the school has been informed of any changes to medical, allergy and emergency contact details. It is vital that school has up to date records and are able to contact parents in an emergency. Please continue to update the school office if your details change.

Attendance and lateness – We are concerned by the increasing number of children arriving to school late or with persistent absence. Please can you support us by ensuring your child attends school on time. Doors close at 8:45am. Sadly, the impact on children's confidence and self-esteem can be negative when they arrive after their peers and after lessons have started. It also has an impact on loss of lesson time and learning. If you are having difficulties bringing your child to school on time and would like some support and/or guidance please contact Mrs Mitchinson our attendance lead on hello@pop.hslt.academy.



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

Kids & smartphones – what's the big deal?

When children first started getting smartphones a decade ago, there was no research about their impact. Now there is, and it's overwhelming.

HARMFUL CONTENT

Smartphones act as a gateway to pornography, violent and extreme content. Often kids don't seek them out but are exposed to them via algorithms and messaging apps. Once seen, these things can never be unseen. 90% of girls and 50% of boys say they've sent explicit content they didn't want to see.

ADDICTION

Tech companies intentionally make apps addictive, because the more time we spend, the more data they harvest, the more money they make. By leveraging dopamine circuits, they trigger brain responses akin to slot machine gambling. 1 in 4 young adults show signs of behavioural addiction to smartphones.

ACADEMIC DISTRACTION

The average teen receives 237 smartphone notifications a day – one every few minutes – making focusing on schoolwork hard. Studies show that excessive smartphone use has negative impacts on academic performance. Children at schools with effective smartphone bans get GCSE's 1-2 grades higher.

GROOMING

Sites like TikTok, Snapchat and Roblox are used by sexual predators to target children with their first smartphones, blackmailing them into sharing sexual content. Sextortion is now the fastest growing crime against teens. Since 2022, there has been a 66% rise in 'self generated' sexual abuse imagery of children under 10.

CYBERBULLYING

Disagreements between pupils used to stop at the school gate, now they follow kids wherever they go. 24/7. Young people who experience cyberbullying are twice as likely to attempt suicide and self-harm. One in six teens report being cyberbullied in the past month, according to the World Health Organisation.

MENTAL ILLNESS

Rates of depression, anxiety and suicide in young people have spiked globally since 2010, when children first began getting smartphones. The first generation to grow up with smartphones are now adults – data shows that the younger they got their first smartphone, the worse their mental health today.

OPPORTUNITY COST

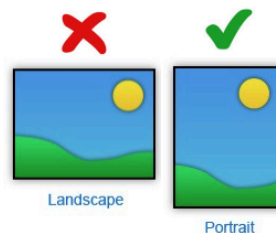
Underpinning all these harms is one that is potentially the most significant of all. For the first time in human history, children are spending more time on devices than they are playing – an activity crucial to our healthy development. Smartphones are experience blockers, distracting children from engaging in the real world. The average UK 12-year-old now spends 29 hours a week – equivalent to a part-time job – on their smartphone. This leaves little time for the real world activities and relationships that enable us to learn the essential life skills we need to transition into adulthood. The average daily time that teens spend with friends has plummeted by 65% since 2010.



2025 Handicrafts competition

RULES

This is an example of 'hand lettering'



Photographs must in portrait format

- Handicrafts must have been created within the last 12 months
- Adult help is allowed for practical tasks, such as putting cakes in and out of the oven or holding something steady—but other than this, entries must be your own work!
- All entries must be labelled with your name, age and contact details on the reverse or underside. This is so that judges cannot identify the maker.
- Entries must be delivered to All Saints Hall between 9-10am on Monday 26th May. After this time, judging will begin and the door will be locked.
- At 2pm the hall will be open for viewing. If you have won a prize, please leave the ticket in place until 4pm when you can exchange it for your prize money.
- From 4pm, please bring prize tickets to the desk outside the door to collect your winnings! If you need to leave the event before this time, you may collect your handicrafts and prize money early. Just ask a member of the committee in the hall.
- Photograph category—The winning photograph will be on the front cover of next year's programme. Therefore it is very important that your photograph is in **portrait** format. Unfortunately, entries in landscape format cannot be judged.
- Please stay within the size limits... we bring rulers!
- If you won a trophy last year, please contact Helen to return it for this year's competition.
- Any Questions? Contact Helen
poppletonsportsday@gmail.com

Monday 26th May 2025 ~ Poppleton Children's Sports Day ~ Handicrafts Competition

Age on the Day: 5 years and under	6-7 years	8-9 years	10-11 years	12-14 years	Comments
BAKING					
1	6 Decorated biscuits	6 Decorated biscuits			Exact number only
2		Loaf Cake	Loaf Cake	Loaf Cake	Please label flavour.
3	6 Plain scones	6 Plain scones	6 Scones (any flavour, please label)	6 Scones (any flavour, please label)	Exact number only. No packet mixes
4	6 Decorated buns	6 Decorated buns	6 Decorated buns	6 Decorated buns	Exact number only. No packet mixes
CRAFTS					
5	Miniature garden	Miniature garden	Miniature garden	Miniature garden	
6	Posy for the May Queen	Posy for the May Queen	Posy for the May Queen	Posy for the May Queen	Please include a posy holder or other means of holding the posy!
7	Knit/ Crochet/ Sew	Knit/ Crochet/ Sew	Knit/ Crochet/ Sew	Knit/ Crochet/ Sew	No kits. Max size - 30cm x 30cm
9	Painting / Drawing	Painting / Drawing	Painting / Drawing	Painting / Drawing	No bigger than A3
11	Edible Jewellery	Jewellery	Jewellery	Jewellery	
12	Model: rigid or working	Model: rigid or working	Model: rigid or working	Model: rigid or working	No Ceramic café models. Paper art/ origami welcome. Max size - 60cm x 60cm
13			Hand lettering/Calligraphy	Hand lettering/Calligraphy	The text should read: 'Be a RAINBOW in someone else's CLOUD'. Borders/ illustrations/colour welcome
14	Paper plate craft	Paper plate craft	Paper plate craft		
15	Decorate an egg	Decorate an egg	Decorate an egg	Decorate an egg	
16	Vegetable monster	Vegetable monster	Vegetable monster		
17	Lego model	Lego model	Lego model	Lego model	Max size - 30cm x 30cm x 30cm
18	Collage picture	Collage picture	Collage picture	Collage picture	No bigger than A3 . Will be wall-mounted
HANDWRITING					
19	Star Light, Star Bright <i>Author Unknown</i>	Alligator Problem <i>By Michael Rosen</i>	The Difference Between Cats and Dogs <i>By Brian Bilston</i>	Before the Big Bang <i>By Elle Cordova</i>	Copies available; email: poppletonsportsday@gmail.com
PHOTOGRAPHY					
20		Photography Competition will be judged as one age group: 8-14 year olds Theme - 'My Favourite Things in Poppleton'			Portrait format only

8-9 Years

Alligator Problem
By Michael Rosen

If an excavator
excavates
and a motivator
motivates
and a rotavator
rotavates
and an operator
operates
and an indicator
indicates
and an investigator
investigates,
what does an alligator do?

6-7 Years

Star Light, Star Bright
Author Unknown

Star light, star bright,
The first star I see tonight,
I wish I may, I wish I might,
Have the wish I wish tonight.

10-11 Years

The Difference Between Cats and Dogs
By Brian Bilston

Dog:

Human lifeform,
You keep me warm
And give me food,
You cater for my every mood.
You give me hugs,
You give me love—
All this you do for free.
There's nothing you wouldn't
do for me,
Whatever the odds.

Therefore, I conclude:
You must be God.

Cat:

Human lifeform,
You keep me warm
And give me food,
You cater for my every mood.
You give me hugs,
You give me love—
All this you do for free.
There's nothing you wouldn't
do for me,
Whatever the odds.

Therefore, I conclude:
I must be God.

These are the poems for the handwriting category. Please follow the layout and punctuation shown as far as possible, and present your work on A4 paper. You can continue onto a second sheet if you run out of space. For this category, only the handwriting will be judged, so illustrations, borders etc. are not necessary. If you are writing in pencil at school, you may write in pencil. Otherwise, please write in pen. Remember to write your name, contact details and age on the reverse so the judges cannot see. If you need the text in a larger font size, please email poppletonsportsday@gmail.com. Good luck!

12-14 Years

Before the Big Bang
By Elle Cordova

There was no up
There was no down
There was no side to side
There was no light
There was no dark
Nor shape of any kind
There were no stars
Or planet Mars
Or protons to collide
There was no up
There was no down
There was no side to side

And furthermore, to underscore
This total lacking state
There was no here
There was no there
Because there was no space
And in this endless void
Which can't be thought of as a place
There was no time
And so no passing minutes, hours, days

Of all the paradoxes
That belabour common sense
I think this one's the greatest
This time before events
Because how did we get from nothing
To infinitely dense
From immeasurably small
To inconceivably immense

But before we get unmoored
From the question at the start
Let's take a breath and marvel
At when math becomes an art
Because we don't have to understand it
To know there was a time
When there was no up
There was no down
There was no side to side

The Poems

Poppleton Village Show

Saturday 16th August 2025

The Green, Upper Poppleton from 12.30 p.m.

Submit Entry Forms by noon on the 14th August

Win Two Jet2 Flights in our Raffle



WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Fruit & Vegetable Exhibits in All Saints Hall

Flowers, Floral Art, Handicrafts & Baking

in New Methodist Hall

Coffee on the Green in The Old Methodist Hall

Vintage Car Display, Fun Dog Show, Stalls

Ebor Brass Band on the Green

Alpacas in the Methodist Garden



Important dates for your diary 2024 - 2025

Training days

Monday 21st July
Tuesday 22nd July

Class sharing assemblies

Friday 25th April Y3 Rhone
Friday 2nd May Y3 Rhine
Friday 9th May Y2 Avon
Friday 16th May Y2 Aire
Friday 23rd May Y1 Tyne
Friday 6th June Y1 Thames
Friday 13th June R Foss
Friday 20th June R Ouse

Tuesday 22nd April	Back to school	
Wednesday 23rd April	Class photographs	
Monday 28th April	Y4 Residential Parents' meeting	3:30 pm Y4 Classrooms
Tuesday 29th April	Y4 Trip Merchant Adventure's Hall	
Wednesday 30th April	KS2 Status Quo Drumming workshop	
Monday 5th May Bank holiday. School closed.		
Thursday 1st May	Friends Orchestra Concert	7-8pm Upper school Hall
w/c 12th May	Y6 SATs	
Friday 16th May	Y6 Celebration day	events TBC
w/c 19th May	Walk to school week	
Monday 19th May	Early Years/ KS1 Phonic workshops	3:30 - 4:00pm Mr Holden's / Miss Goodwill's class
Tuesday 20th May	Y6 Residential Parents' meeting	3:30 pm Y6 Classrooms
Thursday 22nd May	POPs Got Talent	2:00pm Led by School council
w/c 26th May Half Term		
Tuesday 27th Poppleton children's sports day		

Monday 2nd June	Y3 Trip	York's Chocolate Story
Tuesday 3rd June	Y3 Trip	York's Chocolate Story
Tuesday 3rd June	Staying Safe Online event for parents	6:30pm
Thur 5th -Fri 6th June	Y4 Residential	Ingleton

Friday 6th June	Pride	Wear rainbow colours - non uniform
Saturday 7th June	York Pride	
w/c 9th June	Y1 Phonic Screening check Y4 Multiplication check	
Monday 9th June	Sports Day	R/KS1 9:15am KS2 2:00pm School field
Tuesday 10th June	Welcome to early Years 25/26	4:00-5:00 pm
Wednesday 11th June	Nursery sports morning	10:30- 11:00am, Picnic lunch with parents
Friday 13th June	Non uniform day	Donation for the summer fair
Monday 23rd June	Reception Trip	Big Sheep Little Cow - all day
Wed 25th- Fri 27th June	Y6 Residential	Robin Wood
Monday 30th June	Reception new starters taster session	1:30 - 2:30 pm

Tuesday 1st July	Y5/6 Production	2:00 - 3:00 pm
Wednesday 2nd July	Y5/6 Production	5:00 - 6:00 pm
Wednesday 2nd July	Reception new starters session	9:30 -10:30 am
Weds 2nd Thurs 3rd July	Y6 Transition days	
Thursday 3rd July	Y5/6 Production	5:00 - 6:00 pm
Friday 4th July	Popfest / Summer fair	All day / 3:15-5:30 pm
Tuesday 8th July	Nursery new starters 25/26 Stay and Play	3:30-4:30 pm
Thursday 10th July	Nursery new starters 25/26 Stay and Play	3:30-4:30 pm
Friday 11th July	Reports go out/ Classes go out	
Monday 14th July	Reception Graduation	2:30 pm Hall
Tuesday 15th July	Meet your new teacher	9:30-11:30 am
Thursday 17th July	Meet your new teacher	9:30-11:30 am
Thursday 17th July	Y6 Colour Run	2:00pm
Friday 18th July	Y6 Leavers' assembly	2:30pm Hall
Friday 18th July	Last day of term	
Monday 21st and 22nd July School closed Training day		