



Poppleton Ousebank PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter - Thursday 18th December 2025

'Capturing the imagination of young minds'

A message from Miss Collier

We have certainly stepped into Christmas with a little extra sparkle and magic this year. We have loved a fantastic couple of weeks with so many festivities; festive film night, mental elf run, pantomimes, assemblies by Reverend Simon, Elfridges, raffles, and Christmas crafts funded by Friends. As always, I've especially loved seeing the younger children share their Christmas performances. A massive well done to the children. We know that performing in front of so many people is a huge accomplishment and they did with so much cheer and joy. Today we have ended with a fabulous finish; Christmas outfits, dinner and parties.

As we end the autumn term, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff. Their tireless commitment has made this a truly brilliant term. In particular, we have packed so many wider curriculum events and experiences which the children have loved both in and out of school. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a passionate and dedicated team. Please join me in thanking them for everything they do.

Thank you also to you for your ongoing support. We know that without your help many of these wider activities and events could not go ahead. To the wonderful children, supportive parents and incredible staff a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. We look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for the new term on Tuesday 6th January.

Staffing updates

Mrs Mitchinson It is with mixed emotions that I announce that Mrs Mitchinson, our Deputy Headteacher, will be leaving Poppleton Ousebank at the end of the Spring term on Friday 27th March 2026.

Mrs Mitchinson is leaving us to pursue an exciting new opportunity as Child Missing in Education and Elective Home Education Officer at York Council. While we will miss her greatly, we are incredibly proud that her dedication for working with and supporting families has been recognised.

Mrs Mitchinson began at POPS as a newly qualified teacher in 2007. During her 19 years here, she has been an integral part of the Early Years Team and our Senior Leadership Team. She has worked hard to improve the outcomes for our pupils and families, particularly through her work on pupil well-being initiatives. Her commitment to inclusive education within a nurturing environment has greatly benefited our school community.

Please join me in congratulating Mrs Mitchinson on her new appointment and thanking her for her exceptional service to our school. We wish her every success and happiness in the next chapter of her career.

I will keep you updated on any new arrangements as soon as I can. We are working closely to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities so that there is no disruption caused.

Ms Richardson We are pleased to announce that we have recruited a teacher to cover Douro Class, Mrs Walker's maternity leave, beginning Monday 23rd February. Ms Richardson joins us with a wealth of experience, and we are very much looking forward to the expertise she will bring to the classroom. To ensure a smooth transition for the class, we have planned a number of dates next term where the children will meet and work alongside her.

Mrs Richards We look forward to welcoming our new full-time SENDCO on the 5th January.





EVERY DAY COUNTS

Success at school starts with **good attendance**

190 DAYS at school each year ▼ Maximum attendance WELL DONE!	180 DAYS at school each year ▼ 10 DAYS of missed learning	171 DAYS at school each year ▼ 19 DAYS of missed learning	161 DAYS at school each year ▼ 29 DAYS of missed learning	152 DAYS at school each year ▼ 38 DAYS of missed learning	143 DAYS at school each year ▼ 47 DAYS of missed learning
100% attendance	95% attendance	90% attendance	85% attendance	80% attendance	75% attendance

There are **175 non-school** days a year.

That's 175 days for wellbeing, socialising
and non-urgent appointments.

Spring Term

Monday 5th January Training day. School closed.		
Tuesday 6th January	School opens	
Wednesday 7th January	Y3/4 VR Workshops	
w/c 12th January	Clubs start	
Monday 19th January	World Religion Day	A day celebrating other faiths
Tuesday 27th January	Y5 A play in a day	
Friday 30th January	Gladiator Steel	
Tuesday 3rd February	Early Years/ KS1 Phonic workshops	3:30 - 4:15pm Classrooms
Tuesday 3rd February	Y4 Douro Parents' Evening	3:30-6:30pm Classroom
Thursday 5th February	Y4 Douro Parents' Evening	3:30-6:30pm Classroom
Tuesday 10th February	Safer Internet Day	
Tuesday 10th February	Young Voices Concert	Sheffield Arena
Thursday 12th February	Y4 Jorvik trip	
Thursday 12th February	Online Safety Workshops	
Thursday 12th February	Online Safety Workshops - Parents	4:00pm Upper School Hall
w/c 16th February Half Term		
Tuesday 24th February	Parents' Evening	3:30-6:30pm Classrooms
Thursday 26th February	Parents' Evening	3:30-6:30pm Classrooms
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day	Dress as a character or bring your favourite bedtime story and pyjamas.
Thursday 5th March	Friends Book Bonanza	All children to receive a free book
Thursday 5th March	Reception 'Someone Special' reading	Reception Ouse/Foss 2:30 - 3:00pm
Wednesday 11th March	Y2 Art Gallery trip	
Thursday 12th March	Y1 Yorkshire Wildlife Park trip	
Thursday 19th March	Friends Disco	Y1/2 3:15 - 4:00pm Y3/4 4:15 -5:15pm Y5/6 5:30-6:30pm
Friday 20th March	Red Nose Day	Plans TBC by School council
Tuesday 24th March	Y3/4 Production	5:00pm
Wednesday 25th March	Nursery Stay and Play - phonics	9:00 - 9:30am
Thursday 26th March	Y3/4 Production	2:00pm 5:00pm
Friday 27th March	Last day of school	

Summer Term

Monday 13th April	Back to school Careers Week	
Monday 20th April	Clubs begin	
Monday 20th April	Y4 Residential Meeting	3:30 - 4:00pm Classrooms
Tuesday 21st April	Class Photographs	
Monday 4th May Bank holiday. School closed.		
w/c 11th May	Y6 SATs	
w/c 18th May	Walk to school week	
Monday 18th May	Y6 Parent meeting for Residential	3:30pm Classrooms
Tuesday 19th May	Early Years/ KS1 Phonic workshops	3:30 - 4:15pm Classrooms
Thursday 21st May	POPS Got Talent	2:00pm Hosted by School Council
w/c 25th May Half Term		
Friday 5th June	Pride -TBC	Wear colour/rainbow celebrate difference
w/c 8th June	Y1 Phonic Screening check	Y4 Multiplication check
Wednesday 10th June	Nursery sports morning	10:30- 11:00am, Picnic lunch with parents
Friday 12th June	Sports Day	R/KS1 9:15am KS2 2:00pm School field
Friday 12th June	Non uniform day	Donation for the summer fair
w/c 15th June	Y6 Bikeability	
Monday 15th- 16th June	Y4 Residential	Malham Cove
Tuesday 16th June	Welcome to Early Years	4:00-5:00pm
Wednesday 24th -26th	Y6 Residential	Robin Wood
Friday 26th June	Staffing for next year/Classes go out	TBC
Weds 1st Thurs 2nd July	Whole School Transition days	TBC
Friday 3th July	Popfest / Summer fair	All day / 3:15-5:30 pm
Tuesday 7th July	Y6 Production	2:00 pm 5:00pm
Thursday 9th July	Y6 Production	5:00pm
Friday 10th July	Reports go out	
Thursday 16th July	Y6 Colour Run	2:00pm
Friday 17th July	Y6 Leavers' assembly	2:30pm Hall
Friday 17th July	Last day of term	
Monday 20th - School closed Training day		

Other important dates for your diary

Training days

Monday 1st September
Friday 24th October
Friday 19th December
Monday 5th January
Monday 20th July

Class sharing assemblies

Friday 27th February Y6 Nile
Friday 6th March Y6 Niagara
Friday 13th March Y5 Mekong
Friday 20th March Y5 Mississippi
Friday 27th March Y4 Danube
Friday 17th April Y4 Douro
Friday 24th April Y3 Rhone
Friday 1st May Y3 Rhine
Friday 8th May Y2 Avon
Friday 15th May Y2 Aire
Friday 22nd May Y1 Tyne
Friday 5th June Y1 Thames
Friday 12th June R Foss Graduation
Friday 19th June R Ouse Graduation