



Poppy Field School offers a holistic, family-oriented, therapeutic approach to bringing children inner-peace and contentment, enabling them to access education, and become positive, valued members of society.

Autumn (1) Newsletter 2024

Welcome Back!

It has been a busy return to school with lots of new faces joining the school - both staff and students. It has been wonderful to welcome everyone to team purple and engage with some excellent experiences already!

A reminder that we break up for half term on **Friday 25th October**, and then return to school on **Monday 4th November**.



Fundraising for worthy causes

We may have only been back at school for a few weeks, but we have already worked together to raise money for two very worthy causes.

On Friday 20th September we wore our jeans across school to mark 'Jeans for Genes' supporting Genetic Disorders UK. We brought in donations and engaged in learning across school about the work they do and managed to raise £52 for the charity.

The following week on Friday 27th September we participated in the MacMillan Biggest Coffee morning event, to support Macmillan cancer support. All classes had produced cakes to be sold, and we had students take them to the event at Upton Community Centre, followed by our own bake sale in the afternoon. We raised a fantastic £118 with this.

Thank you so much for your continued support, which makes events like this possible.

We have also marked the **International Day of Charity (06.09.24)**, **International Day of Democracy (16.09.24)**, **European Day of Languages (26.09.24)** **World Mental Health Day (10.10.23)**, and **World Food Day (16.10.23)** ensuring students understand the diverse and wonderful world we live in.

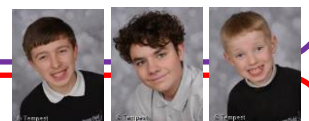
Home Learning Packs

Last week students came home with their own home learning packs. These are for them to complete as best suits them and do not need to be returned to school.

They offer practice in areas that will help develop key maths and English skills.

Students have also brought home their log ins for the array of computer platforms we subscribe to, which can help with their learning.

They are to be used as best suits the student.



School Photographs

On Tuesday 15th October students had their school portraits taken by Tempest Photography. The prints have come home to you for you to decide if you would like to purchase. All instructions for doing so are detailed in the pack and are managed online.

We were very proud of all students who managed the experience brilliantly and were complimented by the photographer for their beautiful behaviour.

Coming Up

We have got lots happening this term including some important dates for your diaries. We take great pride in supporting and raising awareness of a wide range of good causes.

This term we have the following events taking place:

Monday 11th November – We will mark Remembrance Day



Poppies and general merchandise will be on sale in school reception just after half term. Watch out on the Facebook page to find out when they are available. Please note, **no pins are allowed.**

Wednesday 13th November – Anti Bullying Day



Wear odd socks to show support.
Raising awareness about different forms of bullying
The theme this year is 'Choose Respect'

Friday 15th November – Children in Need (suggested donation £1.00)



A non-uniform event – with a '**wear spots**' direction as part of the 'Challenge Yourself' theme for this year's event.
A fun filled day raising awareness and donations for those who are not as fortunate as we are.

Thursday 12th December – Christmas Jumper Day (suggested donation £1.00)



Wear a Christmas Jumper to raise awareness for the Save the Children charity.

Please note, these events are all supposed to be fun and enjoyable, not to cause stress or expense.

Students are encouraged to participate as best suits them.

Our School Improvement Plan

At Poppy Field, we care passionately about the children in our care and work hard to ensure that we are doing the very best for every one of them. As you may be aware, we have school improvement targets that we focus on each academic year. Earlier this month, we have shared a letter updating you on last year's progress and sharing our aims for the next twelve months.

Those key targets are shared below, ensuring success for our students and our commitment to reaching our full potential. We will keep you informed via our Facebook page, and our half termly newsletters, as to how we are meeting these targets over the coming year.

What are our targets 2024-25?

- 1. To ensure all students have the skills to read and write with confidence and pleasure.***
- 2. To ensure that behaviour is positively managed, and a culture of no low-level behaviour is maintained.***
- 3. To continue to deliver holistic support for all students, including speech and language and occupational therapy as needed.***
- 4. To effectively deliver the Poppy Field spiralled curriculum, ensuring all students make progress.***

ParentMail

School Communication



This year we have invested in a system called 'Parentmail' for our written communication. This means that our letters, weekly reports and updates will be sent to the email address you provided in your consent pack.

We also make use of text reminders (to your provided contact number) as well as our popular Facebook page for pictures and news on what the children are doing in school.

Should you need support with accessing Parentmail or Facebook, please don't hesitate to contact the office who will be happy to help (office@poppyfieldschool.co.uk 0151 332 3000).



It's good to talk



Last year we successfully ran monthly coffee catch ups for our parents and carers at Runcorn Library.

We are delighted to share some more dates with you for the Autumn Term.

Whether you are a parent, grandparent or carer, everyone is welcome. This provides opportunity to meet other families informally in a friendly setting. You can expect a warm welcome, a hot drink and a good chat with other families.

We will have Olivia Hope, our school therapist, along with Nicky Hadfield, Head of School, available to chat anything through that you may wish.

If you feel this would be useful for you, or just like the idea of a chat and a cuppa then please come and join us, we will be so pleased to welcome you.

It will take place in **Runcorn Library** on **Thursday 24th October 9.45am - 11.15am.**

With future session booked for:

Thursday 14th November 9.45am - 11.15am.

Thursday 12th December 9.45am - 11.15am.

Runcorn Library is located at - Granville St, Runcorn WA7 1NE (in Old Town, Granville Street, not to be confused with Halton Lea).

We also continue to offer one to one time on a **Wednesday afternoon** for a friendly chat or advice, with Debra Turner our lead therapist. This can be booked with the office - **0151 332 3000** or **office@poppy-fieldschool.co.uk**.



The National College



We're delighted to let you know that Poppy Field School is a member of **The National College** – a multi-award-winning online training provider for staff and parents.

What does this mean for you?

As part of our membership, The National College provides dedicated training and resources for parents and carers – particularly, around online safety and keeping children safe online.

Online safety advice on any topic. Of course, staff will continue to teach children about the risks online. But with the internet so readily accessible, the most effective approach to online safety needs everyone involved, including parents and carers.

That's why you've now got access to **hundreds of courses, explainer videos and online safety guides** to support your awareness of the online world. Topics range from understanding apps like TikTok and Instagram to recognising the signs of online harm and what you can do to help.

Sign up is easy

Signing up to the platform is simple. Just follow <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/poppy-field-school> and complete your details. Once you're set up, you'll be able to choose 'Parent/Carer' as your user type and get instant access to all training and resources.

Download the app for free

Another fantastic benefit of The National College is its National Online Safety app, which you can download for free. It gives you access to all their parent and carer resources on the go, whenever you want.

You can download the National Online Safety app using the links below:

- App store
- Google Play

They're always here to help

The National College has a brilliant support team if you have any questions. Their help centre provides a comprehensive bank of answers to most FAQs, but if you still can't find the answer you're looking for, you can always get in contact with them.



Who are we?



We are well aware that as parents and carers, you don't necessarily have the opportunity to meet the staff team at the school gates, as you might in other settings. You will hear lots of names but it is hard to place us all. Therefore, please see below the Poppy Field Staff Team 2024!



Class Sutherland



Katie



Adelle



Vicky



Louise



Tanya



Class Hopkin



Abby



Kelly



Georgina



Class Armitage



George



Abi



Nicky



Cerys



Class Deaville



Dawn



Laura



Leanne



Ruth



Shannon



Tanya
Relaxation and
Massage



Chris
Hobby Craft



Paul
Music

Alternative Therapy Team



Tracey
Office



Neve
Office and
Kitchen



Sue
Chef



Chris
Maintenance

Poppy Field Support Team



Craig
Executive Head



Nicky
Head of School



George
Assistant Head

Leadership Team

A small selection of pictures from this half term...



School Opens

School Closes

Autumn Term 2024

Thursday 5th September 2024

Friday 25th October 2024

Monday 4th November 2024

Friday 20th December 2024

Spring Term 2025

Wednesday 8th January 2025

Friday 14th February 2025

Monday 24th February 2025

Friday 4th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Wednesday 23rd April 2025

Bank Holiday Monday 5th May 2025

Friday 23rd May 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025

Friday 18th July 2025

