



# The Apple



**The weekly news from Isaac Newton School, Grantham**

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## Dear Parents/Carer

I cannot believe that my first half term as head teacher has almost come to an end. It seems to have flown by and I've very much enjoyed getting to know so many of the children- I'm even starting to get there with names too! Once again, a huge thank you to all of members of the school community who have made me feel so welcome since joining the school. I am very much looking forward to the time ahead!

So much fantastic work has already been done this half term. The children have all thrown themselves into their new topics and I have been amazed by some of the homework which they have brought in! The trips that the teachers have organised have also been a real success, helping to further inspire the children with their learning: Years 5 and 6 experienced life in the workhouse, Years 3 and 4 became Vikings and Years 1 and 2 discovered dinosaurs at the New Walk Museum in Leicester. Next term our EYFS children will take part in their first ever school trip- it will certainly be one which they will remember!



This will be my last newsletter before school ends for half term on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October, so I hope that your children have an exciting final week and that you all have an enjoyable break. I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

**Chris Heathcote**

**Headteacher**

## Foodbank Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank you to everybody who contributed to our collection for the Grantham Foodbank. It was amazing to be able to donate so much. In total we made a donation of 148kg of food which will help over 45 households.



## Attendance for the term

Attendance continues to steadily improve in school and we are delighted that we have broken through the 96% barrier. Thank you for all of your support. Unfortunately there are a number of children who are not attending as well as they could. This means that we need to send letters home and this may eventually lead to a fine. If you do get a letter then please do all that you can in order to ensure that your child is at school as often as possible.

Every School Day Counts					
Your Child Deserves an Education					
190 school days in each year	10 days absence				
	180 days of education	19 days absence			
		171 days of education	29 days absence		
161 days of education	152 days of education		38 days absence		
		143 days of education	80%	47 days absence	
100%	95%			90%	85%
Excellent	Good	Poor	Very Poor		
This is the best chance of success. Get your child off to a flying start. You should be aiming for 96% and above.		WORRYING Less chance of success. It's harder for your child to make progress.		SERIOUS CONCERN Not fair on your child. Could lead to court action or Fixed Penalty Notice.	

## Governor Vacancy

We are currently seeking to appoint a new Parent Governor. Letters will be sent out by our governing body after half term so please look out for these if you would be interested in applying for this role. Mr Heathcote would be delighted to meet with anybody who would like to discuss the role – just book an appointment by calling the office.

### School Gates

From **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October** onwards, the school gates will be opened at the following times at the end of the school day:

**Main gate- 3.15pm**

**Side gate- 3.10pm**

This will give parents plenty of time to be ready to collect their children once they have been dismissed. These times are as follows:

**Foundation Stage 3.20pm**

**Year 1 and 2 3.25pm**

**Years 3-6 3.30pm**

Some of our children are becoming increasingly distracted by the presence of adults outside of classroom windows during lesson time. Thank you in advance for your support with this matter.

### Adults in School

Please remember that Parents/Carers should not be entering the school building either before or after school unless invited in by a member of staff. This is not because we do not like to see you but because we need to ensure that our child protection and fire regulations are followed. If you are late for school then you should take your child to the office where they will then be directed to their class.

### School Disco

We have now sold out of tickets for the KS2 disco (Years 3-6). Please do not turn up and ask to enter without a ticket. **We are not allowed to have more** than the allocated number of pupils in the hall due to fire regulations.

### Bingo

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended our bingo event on Wednesday- we raised £48.34! The money raised by our PTA goes towards purchasing additional items for the children in school, which our school budget would not otherwise allow for. Our School Council will be tasked with the responsibility of finding out how the money raised will be spent and will update you on this at various points in the year. A huge thank you to Mrs Toole, members of the PTA and any other adults who were involved in the organising and running of this event- we couldn't have done it without you! Our next PTA fundraisers are the Halloween discos on 29<sup>th</sup> October and Mark's Magic Kingdom on 6<sup>th</sup> December, we hope to see you all there!

### Mrs Crawford's Retirement

It is with great sadness that I write to tell you of Mrs Crawford's retirement after 18 years at the school. She has supported countless children over the years, helping them to develop both academically and pastorally. I would like to thank her on behalf of the whole school community, she will be dearly missed by all the staff and children here at Isaac Newton. We wish her all the best in her new life by the sea in Devon!

### Maternity Cover Appointment

Last Tuesday we held interviews for a maternity cover teacher to take over from Mrs Collishaw whilst she is away on maternity leave. We are delighted to announce that we appointed Mrs Emma Nicholas to the post. Mrs Nicholas has recently re-located to the area from Norwich, where she previously taught in both EYFS and Nursery at a school very similar to our own. We are very much looking forward to her joining us! After half term, Mrs Nicholas will be teaching Class 1 on Mondays and Tuesdays, with Mrs Fulcher teaching the class on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

### Head Lice

Over the past week it has become apparent that we have more head lice than is usual in the school. Whilst all schools suffer from the same issue, it would be brilliant if all parents/carers were able to check their children's hair regularly. By checking hair and tying long hair back we will be able to slow the spread and ensure that you do not have to treat your children time and time again.

### Dates For Your Diary:

15 <sup>th</sup> October	School Photographs
17 <sup>th</sup> October	Reception - Year 5 Flu Immunisation
19 <sup>th</sup> October	Last Day at School
29 <sup>th</sup> October	Children Return to School Year 1&2 Disco (4:30pm - 5:30pm)
29 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 3—6 Disco (6:00pm - 7:17pm)
7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Diwali Day in school
9 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Remembrance Day in school
13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parents Evening 4-8pm
14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parents Evening 4-5pm
16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Children in Need