

## Dear Parents/Carer

Since the last newsletter, there have been a host of exciting events in and out of school which we have shared in this latest edition. The weather may have been a bit grim recently, but this has not affected the children. They have been as enthusiastic and buoyant as ever. We are really proud of all our children, they make coming to work so special!

We really want to know about your child's out of school achievements, please email the school office on [enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk) with information or send their hard work into school, and we will celebrate this in our next Newsletter, on social media and during our Celebration Assemblies!

## Reminders

It is parents and carers responsibility to inform the school office if their child(ren) are going to be absent from school. Please do this by calling 01476 568616. In addition to this, please ensure the children arrive in school by 9am. If they are late, they miss out on valuable learning time. Both gates open at 8.45 and classroom doors are open at 8.50am.

Below is a reminder of the impact of having below 90% attendance. If this continues over a five-year period, this is equivalent to half a school year's worth of lost learning that will result in significant gaps. Mr Richards and the attendance team continue to work hard to support families, offer advice and help get children back in school so they can flourish.

## Parking



A polite reminder to all parents who drive their children to and from school **not** to park at the gate and block the entrance to school please. This causes considerable disruption for local residents and is also a safety hazard.

## Road Safety



Unfortunately, we have had more concerns raised with us from a resident, about children running straight out of school and crossing the road without looking both ways or for cycling and scooting in an unsafe manner. I don't need to tell you how dangerous this is. We will remind the children about being safe in school, please can you talk to them about this as well.

The government website below is a fantastic resource and has lots of useful advice, in child friendly form.

<https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>

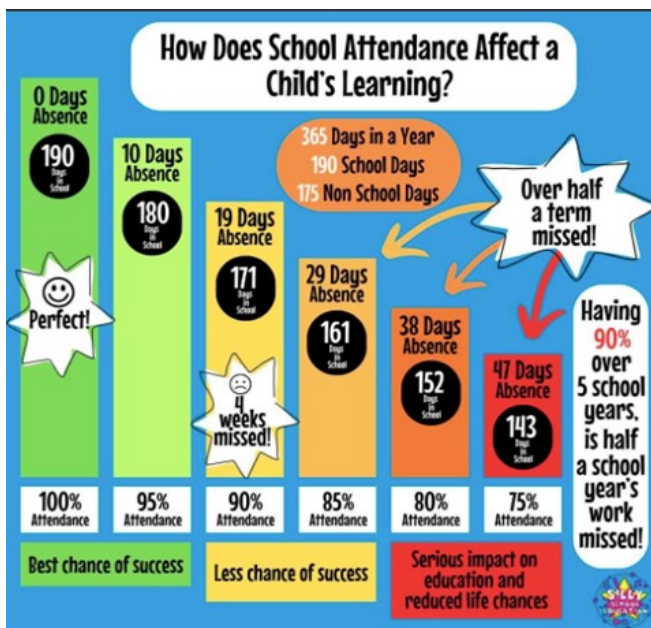
## School Values

We have continued to focus on our school value of **Respect** this term and continued with discussing Responsibility. This has been discussed in assemblies, with the school council and in class. Being respectful and responsible for their actions will not only ensure that children are successful in school, but will also serve them well as adults in the workplace. This week, we set the children a challenge of being ready first time, every time!

## Fixed Penalty Notices

Unfortunately, we have had no option but to issue fines to some families for unexplained, unacceptable levels of attendance. This is an absolute last resort and has only been considered after all other avenues have been explored and support has been rejected.

Mr D. Milner  
Headteacher



## Celebration Assembly



*Winners from last Friday's Celebration Assembly (01.03.24), with their certificates.*



*Winners from last Friday's Celebration Assembly (26.02.24), with their certificates.*

Every Friday afternoon, we spend time celebrating all the successes from the week and present children with a Headteacher's Award. Staff choose one pupil from each class for a reason connected with our values (Respect, Pride, Responsibility, Kindness and Resilience and for following our simple, but effective, school rules (Be Ready; Be Respectful and Be Safe). All children are encouraged to listen carefully to the reasons for the award and they receive a certificate, a sticker and a round of applause from the whole school. It is always a special occasion and enjoyed by all!

## Thanks from Year 6 pupils

Kerri Arlando, who plays for the women's rugby team at Kesteven Rugby Club, has kindly donated Year 6 a bag full of quality reading books. The class were thrilled and have sent her the below letter to thank her.

Dear Kerri Arlando,

Thank you for the new books. We are very excited and have already been grabbing the ones we want to read! We love Diary of a Wimpy Kid and the Tm Gates books are also great. We still love Roald Dahl and Miss Jones says we should all have read his books before we go to secondary school as they're not the same when you're an 'old person' (she said adult!!)

Thank you again though.

From Danni and Kayla  
(representing Class 14 at Isaac Newton School.)



## Author Visit

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, we were lucky enough to have an author visit our school. Jenny Pearson delighted the whole

school with details about some of her fantastic books and excited us all with some funny quizzes and activities. Those children who ordered copies of her book were treated to a book-signing session with Jenny too. We had a wonderful afternoon and it got us ready for our World Book Day celebrations

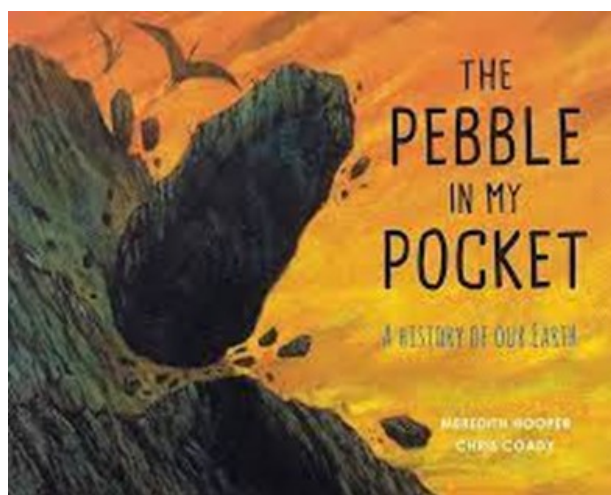
## World Book Day

Book Recommendations:

Nikola from Class 12 has recommended 'The Pebble in my Pocket' by Meredith Hooper. As well as the phenomenal illustrations. Nikola was particularly inspired by the short passage on the last page of the book:

*My pebble is four hundred and eighty million years old. So far. Keep travelling pebble.*

*Every pebble in the world is different from every other pebble. Every pebble has its own story. Pick up a pebble and you are holding a little piece of history of our planet.*



## Book in a Box Competition

What fabulous entries from everyone! Well done to all who entered; it was an incredibly tricky task to decide the winner. Because the entries were so amazing, we decided to have a winner per year group as well as a KS1 winner and a KS2 winner.



*Year 1 - Bailey-Rae Class 3*



*Year 2 - Esme Class 6*



*Year 3 - Arthur Class 7*



*Year 4 - CJ Class 10*



*Year 5 - Isabelle Class 12*



*Year 6 - Sofia Class 14*



*EYFS/KS1 Overall winner - Dominic Class 4*



*KS2 Overall winner - Lily Class 13*

Huge thanks to Mrs Gaze for organising World Book Day for us this year. It was a wonderful event, all about reading and we hope the children have been inspired to read a different book or a series of books from an author!

## Sports/PE update

Upcoming events for the remainder of the term include the following tournaments:

- ◇ Girls Football
- ◇ Netball
- ◇ Hockey
- ◇ Tag Rugby

This term we are also running a variety of lunchtime and after school clubs for selected children. Inspire+ will be working with Year 2 and Year 4 children on Tuesday lunchtimes and Hockey/Tag Rugby will take place on Wednesday after school.

The playground leaders are as ever, busy running activities for children on EYFS and KS1 playgrounds, ensuring our children have the opportunities to stay active during lunch breaks. Well done to the playground leaders, your commitment to this is fantastic to see!!

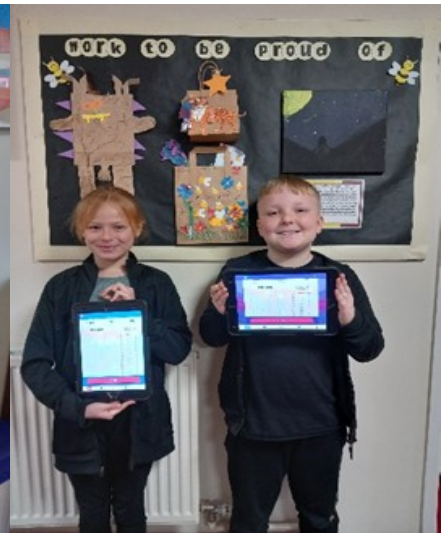
**Work to be proud of**



*Well done Mason who devised an amazing map and constructed a key to go with it by using an aerial photograph of Caerlaverock Castle. Well done.*



*Well done to Eleni, Tiffany and Clay who have all scored 25 out of 25 on TT Rock Stars.*



*Kassidy's wonderful writing this morning. Fabulous presentation too. Well done!*



*Liam and CJ wonderful fractions work.*



*Great maths work from Jas and Dorian. Super effort, well done!*

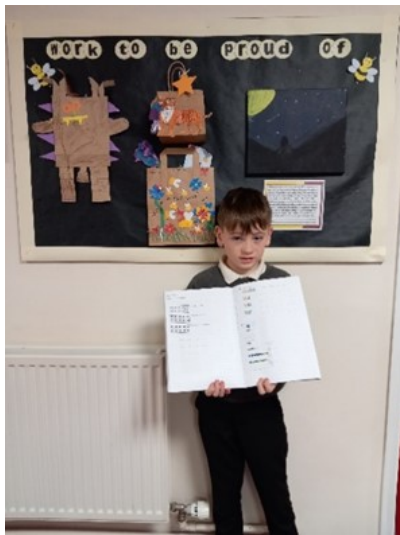


*Fantastic work on measurement in maths from Tommie-J, Logan and Cole. They worked so hard and were so excited to show off their new skills!*

**Work to be proud**



*Year 2 created some wonderful collages last week. Well done Mason, you worked so hard on this!*



*Amazing guided reading work from Sara, Kian and James. Accurate work linked with the Mayans, well done!*



*Year 3 geography work. Understanding how volcanoes erupt. Freddie and Toby could clearly explain this process, well done!*



*Ekkoe, from Class 1 did some amazing maths work on number bonds to 10 and decorated it really well. Beautiful presentation. Some great number sentences!*



*Great work from Austeja and Isaac. To understand how water is transported in plants. Wonderful diagram, well presented and well explained.*

## Work to be proud



*Excellent information text on Medieval weapons. Well done to Alexia and Riley. Planning and final piece of writing. Great to see the full writing journey.*



*Riley and Kyra for being role models, respectful and for being ready first time, every time! Well done we are so proud of you!*



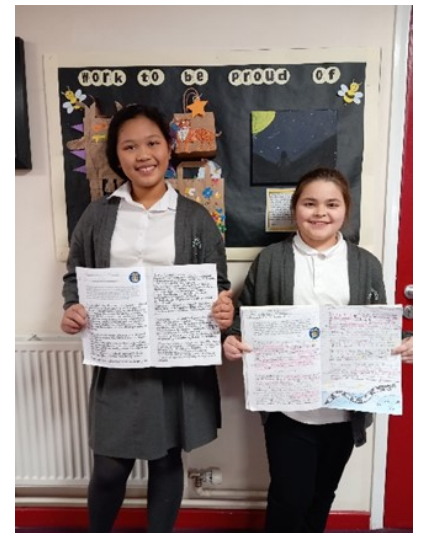
*Class 10 amazing English work. Non chronological report on Ancient Egypt. Well done Chloe, Millie and CJ*



*Harmony produced an outstanding narrative about a river monster. Amazing sentence openers with descriptive language. Well done!*



*Sara created some amazing artwork and accurate guided reading, while Connor and Jack produced entered the world book day book token competition. Well done!*



*Summer-Mae and Isabel from Class 13 produced some fantastic writing, following an exciting story starter. The imagery, descriptive language and varied sentence length is so mature. Well done Year 6!*

*As they glided on the river, Tom placed his hand into the crystal-clear, sapphire water. Michael however listened to the calm whistle of the wind. They thought an elusive monster in myths might be in the river Nile!*

*Michael and Tom watched the glass like water shimmer, as the beach ball sun blazed down on it! They floated on the glass river while birds chirped a beautiful song. Gracefully, the serene river made Michael and Tom feel relaxed!*

**Work to be proud from home**



*Fabulous Volcano made by Ragina. Interesting facts about earth and volcanoes by Summer. Olivia D created a fantastic volcano picture whilst Olivia B produced a wonderful diagram of the parts of a flowering plant, picture of earth and it's crust.*



*Daniel from Class 10 has produced this fabulous Ancient Egyptian Pyramid. The attention to detail on this is phenomenal!*



*Great work on times tables, parts of a flowering plant, a volcano picture with facts, a picture of the earth and a cross section showing the crust from Kyra, Patrick and Emilia.*



*Tomas and his phenomenal Rocket with a working light and a realistic rocker launcher in the bottom created by using a fan! So impressive!*



*Year 5 Mayan menus and a Mayan mask. Well done. Nikola, James D, Libby, Lacie, Rayana, Kendra and Kian.*



*Fantastic volcanoes by Sky and Tommie-J. Well done you have worked so hard on these at home!*

## Out of school achievement



*Well done to Alisa on her Stage 2 swimming badge. We are very proud of you!*



*Congratulations to Alfie Drew who was representing Isaac Newton in the School's Gymnastics over the weekend, and came first in the under 9's boys event! His family are so proud of him and so are we! Well done Alfie, you have done so well.*

### Dates For Your Diary:

12th March	Year 2 at Lincoln Castle	27th March	Class photographs
19th March	New Walk Museum (Year 4)	28th March	End of Term 4
19th March	Discos! (KS1 4.30 – 5.30pm; KS2 6 – 7pm)	17th April	Parents' Evening (4 – 7pm)
21st March	World Poetry Day	18th April	Parents' Evening (4 – 6pm)
21st March	Yorkshire Wildlife Park (Year 1)		



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators PROMOTING STORYTIME

Being read to regularly can help the under-fives in acquiring literacy; teaches them the value of books and stories; and sparks their imagination and curiosity. Reading to babies, meanwhile, provides the building blocks of language development and the beginnings of social and emotional skills. Here are our top tips for helping children discover the wonder of stories.

## 1 BE A READING ROLE MODEL

Children thrive on copying the behaviours of adults around them, so it's vital to model regular reading habits: if your child sees you reading, they're likely to copy you. Reading on a screen could be misinterpreted by a child as a different activity, so a printed book is preferable.

## 2 JOIN A LIBRARY

Local libraries are a cost-effective way of introducing your child to new books. Libraries often host free events to build engagement with reading. Librarians can recommend books based on age, interests, genre or author. Having their own library card and choosing their next read can be exciting for little ones.

## 3 TAKE IT IN TURNS

Taking turns to read and turn the pages can build your child's confidence and lets you model what's expected. For younger ones, reading doesn't have to mean the exact words on the page – they might prefer their own version! Reading to different audiences is useful: teddies are excellent listeners!

## 4 CATER TO THEIR INTERESTS

Like adults, children tend to favour books with themes they're interested in. If they're less keen to move away from their preferred subject matter, you could vary the type of book they read by swapping between fiction and non-fiction. There'll be plenty of scope to diversify as they grow up.

## 5 BUILD READING INTO YOUR DAILY ROUTINE

Building reading into your daily routine will have a positive impact. Just before bedtime is ideal for many families, helping settle the child to sleep. The adult usually reads the story, but children enjoy more interactivity as they get older. It can be handy to have books with you when out and about.

## 6 USE PICTURES AND PROPS

Most children's books contain beautiful illustrations which enrich the text. Spend time discussing these with your child and pointing things out. As well as doing voices for different characters and making any relevant noises, you could also enhance story time with props such as toys or puppets.

## 7 RELISH THE LANGUAGE

The language in children's books is varied and rich; sometimes they might include words children are less familiar with, so you can take the opportunity to explain what they mean. With younger children, you could try paraphrasing certain sentences afterwards to help with understanding.

## 8 A COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT

Where possible, read to your child in an environment that's free from distractions. This helps children to get fully immersed in the experience, supporting their concentration and engagement. Doing this often can help to build up the child's ability to focus for greater lengths of time.

## 9 TAKE REGULAR BREAKS

Although reading can be hugely enjoyable, children can sometimes struggle to sit for long periods or to engage with texts fully. Have regular breaks: reading a few pages is better than none. You could also have some movement breaks – there's no particular 'right' or 'wrong' way to enjoy a story.

## 10 RE-READ FAVOURITES

Most children have certain stories that they love hearing again and again. This repetition lets them become familiar with language patterns and more engaged by feeling able to join in. Choosing other books by your child's preferred author can help them to discover new favourites.

### Meet Our Expert

Kara Kieman has worked in senior leadership positions (both in the UK and internationally) for 15 years, supported by an MEd in Educational Leadership. As an educational consultant, she now delivers training for a range of organisations – notably an EYFS practice and child development. Previously, Kara was head of a nursery and junior school and has also been a director of early years.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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