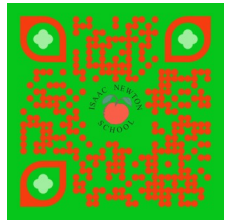




# The Apple



*The weekly news from Isaac Newton School, Grantham*

Volume 5 Issue: 027

Circulation: 420

Date: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024

## Dear Parents/Carer

Since the last newsletter was published, there have been a range of exciting activities happening in school and during off site school trips. We are excited to share these with you. Please also look out for posts on our school Facebook and Twitter accounts.

## Parent Feedback

Many thanks to those parents and carers who took the time to complete our recent Parent Feedback Survey. I am thrilled to inform you that 100% stated staff treat their child with fairness and respect and 100% say their child feels safe at school. 95% feel that staff know their child really well as an individual and 100% think that their child makes good progress at Isaac Newton.

All decisions are made with the children's best interests in mind. However, we acknowledge that there may be times when parents/carers do not agree. It is essential that we are made aware, in the correct way. This can be done by emailing [enquires@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk](mailto:enquires@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk), calling the school office (01476 568616), catching a member of the Senior Leadership Team at the gate in the morning or after school or speaking to Mrs Eldred and/or Mrs Haddock to arrange a face-to face meeting.

## Money Management course for parents/carers

Do you want to get your finances under control for free? Luckily with Melton and District Money Advice Centre you can! **On Friday 8th November 2024 at 2pm** they'll be holding their next FREE money management course at Isaac Newton!



Attending will equip you with essential budgeting skills, allow you to identify your spending habits as well as taking a detailed look at your income expenditure. To book your place simply email [enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk) and put Melton Money Advice in the subject.

This will be a first come first served basis, due to space in the hall

## Out of school achievements

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 which will be published on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November**, on social media and during our Celebration Assemblies!

## Reminders

Please ensure that children wear studs and not hoops or 'dangly' earrings. If studs cannot be removed, unfortunately children will not be able to take part in Physical Education. Please consider this before letting children get their ears pierced!

## SHOE BOX APPEAL

*The gift of a Filled Rotary Shoebox brings happiness to those who still find themselves living in abject poverty for no reason other than geography.*



This year we **cannot accept any boxes for Babies**, although we still accept Boys, Girls, and Household boxes. All items must be new and sealed inside the filled shoeboxes. The boxes themselves should be left unsealed. If you would like full information about the scheme, please visit [www.shoeboxrotary.org](http://www.shoeboxrotary.org).

**Shoe boxes are being collected 4<sup>th</sup> November.**

## Foster Carers

Lincolnshire County Council are in urgent need of Foster Carers. If you are interested in finding out more, there are further details on the QR code on the poster below.



They need  
someone  
like you...



**We're urgently recruiting Lincolnshire foster carers**



Join a  
supportive  
community



"Outstanding"  
rated service  
by Ofsted



Training &  
Support

Join a diverse community of local foster carers from all different walks of life. Here in Lincolnshire, we put our children in care at the heart of everything we do, and provide bespoke training and support for our foster carers.



**Be the difference. Be a foster carer.**

## Attendance

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 **before 9.30am**. In addition to this, please ensure the children arrive in school by 8.50am. If they are late, they miss out on valuable learning time. **Both gates open at 8.40, classroom doors are open at 8.45am and learning starts from 8.50am.**

Attendance by Class for the last two weeks.

### How many classes are above 96%

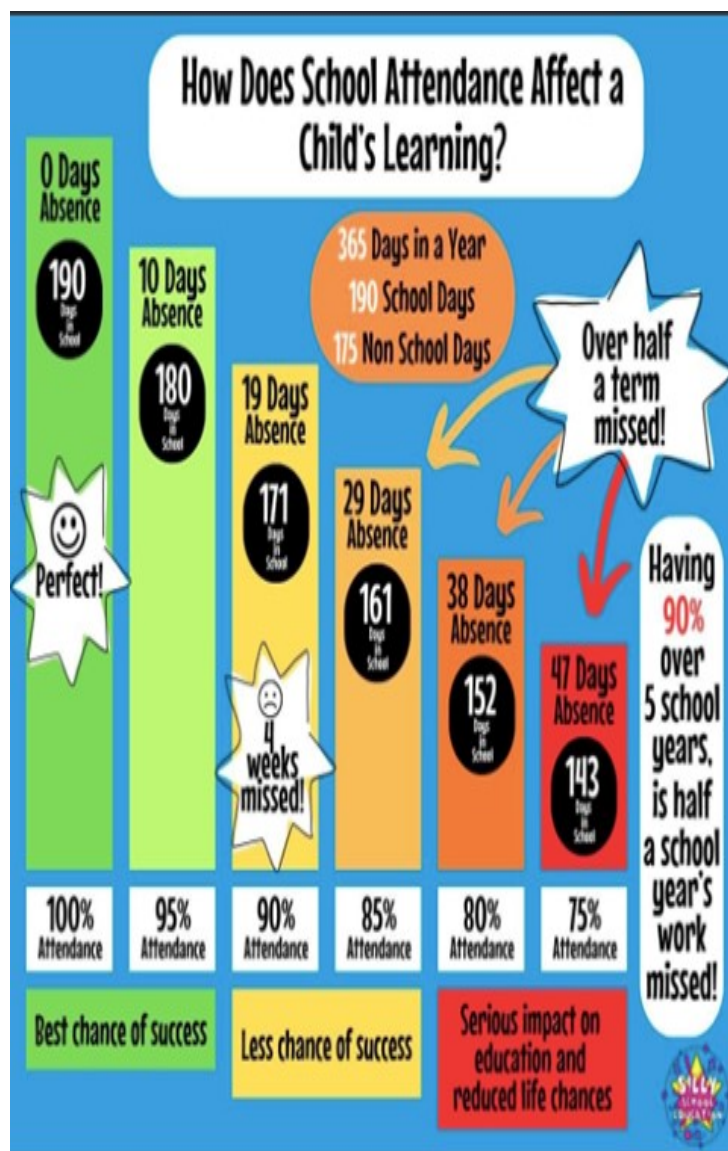
Class 1	95%	Class 8	99%
Class 2	96%	Class 9	95%
Class 3	97%	Class 10	96%
Class 4	97%	Class 11	97%
Class 5	97%	Class 12	96%
Class 6	91%	Class 13	95%
Class 7	95%	Class 14	93%

Well done to Classes 2,3,4,5,8,10, 11 and 12 who each have attendance over 96% also to classes 1, 7, 9 and 13 for having attendance over 95%.

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.

## Medical Appointments

Photocopies of medical letters or of medical appointments are really useful and will mean that these absences will be authorised. Thanks you for your support with this.



## Useful link – Is my child too ill for school?

The attached NHS link is a really useful resource for parents/carers if they are unsure whether to send their child to school or not. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>





## Celebration Assembly

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. We also celebrate those children who have produced exceptional work in school, at home and their out of school achievements. It is always a special occasion and enjoyed by all!



*Winners from the recent Friday Celebration Assembly (18.10.24 and 01.11.2024) with their certificates.*

## Book donation to Isaac Newton

Kerri plays rugby at Kesteven and has donated loads of new books to Class 14. We have shared them with the other year 6 class. We have written her a letter of thanks...

Dear Kerri Arlando,

Wow!! Thank- you for our new books. We have just finished putting stickers on them to show our class which level they all are. We love reading and David Walliams books are always borrowed and some get lost so we have been able to get the sets completed again.

We have already been trying to get the ones we haven't read. We are all very excited. One girl loves the Artemis Fowl books and has taken 3 at once!!!

Miss J's book corner is packed now. We took a picture of it. We gave some of the books to other classes if we had them already eg David Baddeil.

Thank you so much. We always love new books.

From Rayana and Nikola in Miss Jones' class – class 14  
Isaac Newton



## Dates For Your Diary:

7th November	Year 6 trip to Cromford Mills
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Money Management Course 2pm
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Cheerleading Festival
10th December	EYFS Afternoon Christmas Performance
11th December	EYFS Morning Christmas Performance
12 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Christmas Performance from 9.30am
12 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Christmas Performance from 2.15pm
13 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Christmas Performance 9.30 – 10.30am
13 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Christmas Performance 2 – 3pm
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner Day
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day (Optional)
18th December	End of term 2
19th December	INSET DAY (School closed to all pupils)
6th January 2025	Start of Term 3

## Sports/PE update

During the last week of last half term, children in KS2 have taken part in the annual football house games. Each year group competed within their house colours in short mini football matches, showcasing the skills and knowledge they have gained throughout their football PE sessions this term. The results are in and we are pleased to announce the following winners:

- Year 3 - Foale (green)
- Year 4 - Saunders (Yellow)
- Year 5 - Saunders (Yellow)
- Year 6 - Saunders (Yellow)

Well done to all the children across KS2, you showed respect for others, were determined and played with great spirit!

Our girls football team has been in action recently, playing a friendly fixture against Huntingtower and attending the Grantham Girls Football Tournament. Having spent 6 weeks learning skills and tactics at the Girls Football after school club, they were prepared and excited for the opportunity to play together and represent Isaac Newton. They showed fantastic attitudes throughout, supporting each other and working hard. Well done girls, you have made the whole school extremely proud!!

At Isaac Newton we are extremely proud of our inclusivity offer within curriculum and extra curricular provision. We provide a wide range of extra opportunities, tracking areas for improvement. Our clubs include specific SEND and girls only options, allowing all children to access a club across the year in an environment they feel comfortable and allows their confidence to grow. We also ensure fairness for all through our curriculum offer. We are incredibly proud to say this dedication to inclusivity has been acknowledged and rewarded by the Football Association with the Equal Access Schools Mark. We have been presented with a plaque which we will proudly display in school. Many thanks must also go to Inspire+ for supporting our application and providing inclusive opportunities for our children.



*Girls Football Team*



*Our FA Plaque*

## School Values

This term we will focus on our school value of Respect. 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.

## OUR SCHOOL VALUES



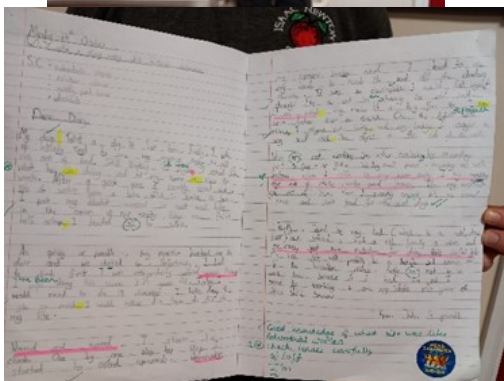
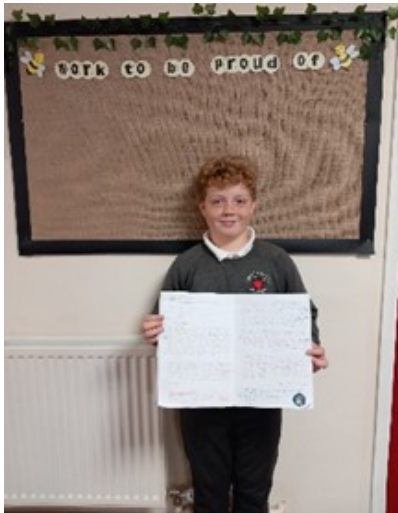


## Year 1 trip to Mrs Smith's Cottage

On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October, year 1 went on an exciting trip to Smiths Cottage where they learnt all about how people lived in the past. The children took part in three workshops; wash day, sounds in the home and tour of Mrs Smith's cottage. The children couldn't believe that Mrs Smith washed all her clothes by hand and had no hot water in her home and only had electricity installed when she was an old lady. They were also amazed by the outside toilet! The children enjoyed the hands-on History learning and were able to make links to our learning so far. They were very well behaved and were a credit to Isaac Newton.



## Work to be proud of



Amazing diary entry about a Victorian child chimney sweep. Great knowledge of what life would have been like with some amazing adverbial starters. Well done Filip!

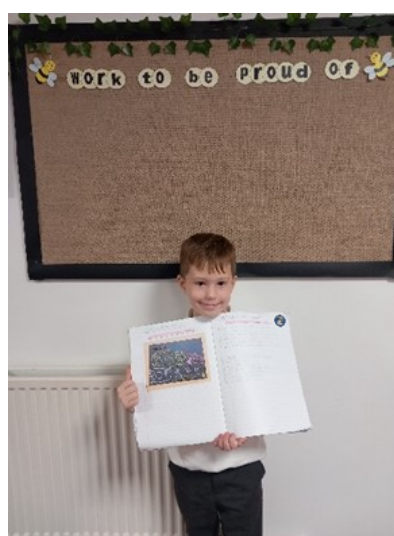
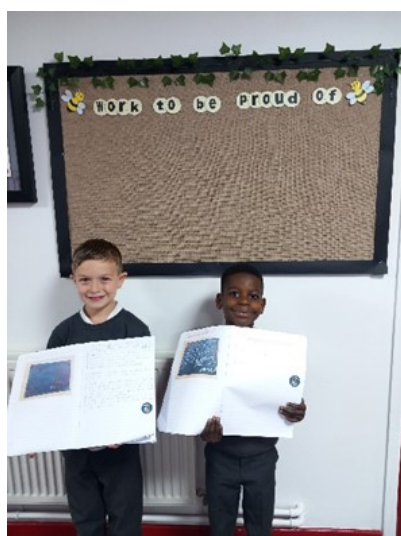


Year 2 have been writing their own version of the amazing text, The Tiger who came to tea. Neve, Nova and Emma each produced a brilliant story with some amazing sentence starters, accurate punctuation and well chosen vocabulary! Well done!

## Work to be proud of



Ragina and Lilly have been doing an amazing job tidying up the library and making sure that the books are in the correct section. This makes it so much easier for the rest of the school to select books. Thank you so much!



Fabulous acrostic poems from Noah, Ayobami and Harry in year 2! Really well presented too.



Brilliant setting description using expanded noun phrases. Amazing work from year 3. Well done to Amelia, Rochelle and Alexia.



Brilliant maths work from Jasmine who accurately counted up to the next ten. Well done. Amazing presentation too!



## Work to be proud of from home



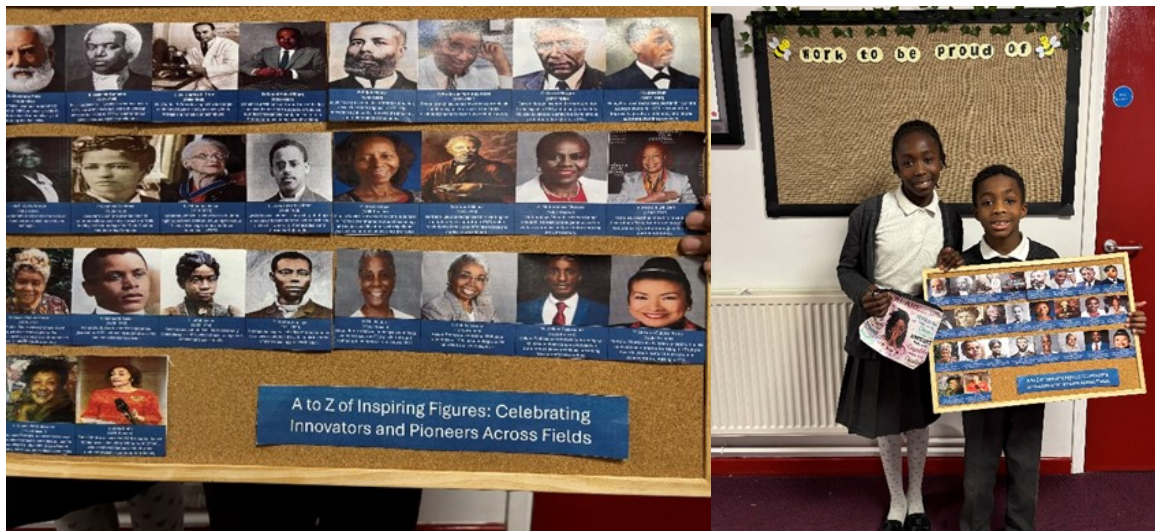
Look at these dragon drawings that Kyra did at home. She was inspired by the art topic in school. Such wonderful colours and careful shading. Well done!



Emma is obviously a very talented artist. Just look at this detailed and colourful picture of Queen Victoria. Year 2 are studying the Victorian times at the moment. Well done!



Amber from Class 9 has created an amazing Viking shield. Well chosen colours and a really effective look. Great work.



Fantastic work from home. As part of Black History Month Lana and Seagun, created with their mum, a brilliant A-Z display of inspiring black figures and also a game of snap (which the class have been playing this week). They were both very knowledgeable about these inspiring figures and told me their two favourite people were Katherine Johnson for her work with NASA and Olufunmilayo Olopade for her important research into breast cancer.



## Work to be proud of from home



A fantastic cave by Zak with an open fire at the front. This is inspired by the Stone Age Topic they are doing as part of history! Well done.

## Out of school Achievements



On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October, Julia from Class 12 swam an astonishing 2000m. She achieved her one mile badge with certificate and also her 2000m, in the process. We are so proud of her, what an amazing achievement! Well done!



Great swimming from Alexia who has achieved her Learn to Swim 1 badge and certificate. Amazing!



Arthur took part in a rugby tournament at Kesteven Rugby Club last weekend and did really well. He also achieved his 10m and 25m swimming badges. Well done Arthur!



## Safeguarding Update

In October 2024, we looked at the NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Programme. We created lots of posters and information and this video featured some of our wonderful work! To see the video click here: <https://youtu.be/s3DMNmlTOAQ>

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](http://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# FORTNITE



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Fortnite was launched back in 2017, but it remains massively popular – with more than 650 million active players. That's partially due to the competitive nature of its player-vs-player combat, its pop culture crossovers and its constantly shifting map. Significant updates are rolled out with each new version of the game – known as 'chapters' – and within these sit shorter 'seasons'.

## ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player offline mode in Fortnite: it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about (both in terms of connectivity and using up data), so you may find that dedicated young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

## IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – cosmetic 'skins', music tracks and LEGO items – which don't really impact on gameplay but can cost a significant amount. These items are bought with in-game currency, V-Bucks – earned through completing the Battle Pass (which also costs V-Bucks) and can also be purchased from the game's store for real money.

## POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from movies and TV shows like Family Guy and Avatar: The Last Airbender to comic book characters including Batman to other games such as Street Fighter. This means you could have children asking questions about the monster from Alien or Geralt from The Witcher a little sooner than you otherwise might have.

## CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. 'Crossplay' lets friends play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC – while the 'party chat' feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can, however, put youngsters at risk of hearing inappropriate language from older players in the heat of virtual combat.

## VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

At its core, there's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as fishing mini-games and dancing emotes. Machine guns, shotguns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, however, so discretion is advised.

## FREQUENT UPDATES

The game's developers release content in 'seasons' that usually run for around ten weeks. Each fresh update sees items added to the in-game store, changes to the environment's map and a different over-arching theme (such as 'medieval', 'pirates' or 'party'). These regular renewals help to hold players' interest – but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### MATCH GAMING TIMES

Younger players tend to play Fortnite with their friends. With that in mind, it could be worth speaking to the parents and carers of a child's social group and coordinating their gaming around certain times of day. Safety in numbers is obviously a factor here, but it will also help children feel that they're getting adequate opportunities to socialise with their friends online.

### SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

### USE UPDATES AS REWARDS

Fortnite's seasonal updates are free, but each also brings the option of a 'battle pass', unlocking exclusive rewards for playing the game and completing set challenges. The passes cost around £8 and are also available as part of larger bundles. The purchase of passes can be an effective reward to young Fortnite fans for good behaviour or academic performance, or as an incentive for completing chores like tidying their room.

### BE WARY OF SCAMS

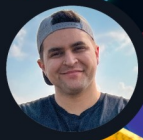
The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game: make sure any young player knows this.

### ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents and carers to do something fun with their child, while also making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

## Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



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# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## TEACHING CHILDREN FIRE SAFETY

Fire safety is especially important around Bonfire Night, as fireworks, bonfires and sparklers add extra risks for families and young children. Every year in the UK, thousands of accidents occur due to improper handling of fireworks and neglecting fire safety measures. This guide offers practical tips for keeping children safe when handling everything from fireworks to space heaters.

### 1 BONFIRE NIGHT AWARENESS



Bonfire Night is exciting, but it comes with several inherent risks. Educate children about the dangers of fireworks and open flames. Teach them that only adults should handle fireworks and that bonfires should never be approached. Keep children at a safe distance (at least five metres away) from bonfires and explain why supervision is crucial during these events.

### 2 SUPERVISE FIREWORK USE



Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults who are following UK laws and guidelines. Make sure to buy fireworks that meet British Standards and adhere to all instructions that come with them. Keep children a suitable distance from any firework activity and designate an adult to supervise the event. Ensure no one goes near fireworks after they've been lit.

### 3 SPARKLER SAFETY

Sparklers are often captivating for little ones, but they can burn at extremely high temperatures – over 1,000 °C! Only allow children over the age of five to use sparklers, and make sure they wear gloves. Teach them to hold sparklers at arm's length and never wave them near others. Once a sparkler has burned out, extinguish it fully in a bucket of water – which you should prepare beforehand and always keep nearby.

### 4 ORGANISED DISPLAYS ARE SAFER



If possible, families should attend an organised fireworks display rather than holding one at home. These tend to be far safer as they're run by professionals adhering to strict safety regulations. Organised displays also provide a controlled environment where children can enjoy the event from a safe distance, reducing the risk of accidents.

### 5 KEEP FIREWORKS AWAY FROM THE HOME



If you are hosting your own fireworks display, set them off well away from homes, sheds or fences to avoid starting accidental fires. Choose a wide-open space with no flammable materials nearby and keep a means of putting out fires to hand in case of emergency – such as a bucket of water, a hose or a fire extinguisher. Afterwards, ensure that all fireworks are fully extinguished and never attempt to relight one if it doesn't go off.

### 6 BONFIRE SAFETY



If you're building a bonfire, place it well away from trees, buildings, fences or anything else flammable. Make sure it's structurally sound and not at risk of collapsing. Only burn natural materials like wood and leaves, avoiding petrol or other accelerants. Children should be kept far away from the bonfire, and it should always be supervised by adults. Be sure to fully extinguish the bonfire before you leave it.

### 7 "STOP, DROP AND ROLL"



Ensure that children know what to do if their clothing catches fire. Teach them the simple "stop, drop and roll" technique, which can quickly extinguish flames. Practice this with them before events like Bonfire Night, so they feel confident if the need to use it arises. It can also be helpful to keep another means of putting out these kinds of fires on standby, just in case. An extinguisher or flame-retardant blanket are both sound choices.

### 8 SECURE CANDLES AND OPEN FLAMES



Beyond Bonfire Night, everyday fire safety is also crucial. Candles can be a common fire hazard, especially in homes with young children. Teach children not to touch any open flames, and ensure candles are placed in sturdy holders away from combustible materials. Never leave candles, incense burners or other such items unattended, and always extinguish them fully before leaving a room or going to bed.

### 9 EDUCATE ABOUT FIREWORKS HAZARDS

Make sure children understand the dangers of playing with fire or fireworks, and how to handle such things responsibly. Emphasise that fireworks are **not** toys and can cause serious injuries when improperly used. Demonstrate the importance of treating fire with respect and the consequences of misuse, which can help temper any curiosity and any resultant dangerous behaviour.

### 10 FIRST AID FOR BURNS

Even if you have the best possible precautions in place, accidents can still happen. Keep a first aid kit on hand. Ensure you know how to apply basic first aid to burns, so you can teach children those techniques too. If someone suffers a burn, run it under cool water for 20–30 minutes. Never use creams or ointments, as these retain heat and can cause further damage. Instead, seek medical help if the burn is serious.

### Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings and many other industries, helping them to maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fire-safety>

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