



# The Apple



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

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## Dear Parents/Carers

It's been great to see a further step towards normality taking place this week with the re-introduction of our after school clubs. Mrs Moorcroft had some of our Year 5s busily working away in the hall as part of our 11+ club and our PE team (Laura, Mrs Walker and Mrs Atter) had a whole host of key stage two children running around on the school field! We hope that as measures continue to gradually lift, whilst it remains safe to do so, that we will see a further return to normality in many more aspects of school life.

Whilst on the subject of school clubs, I know that many of you in our last Parent/Carer survey before the pandemic, commented that you would like us to offer a greater range of extra-curricular clubs across more year groups. Well, I'm delighted to announce that we have appointed a 'Sports Apprentice' for the next academic year who will work with our current PE team. This will mean that we will be able to provide further sports clubs across some of our younger year groups! There are also plans afoot to try and offer some more clubs outside of sport and PE also. Mrs Brownlie has already taken this on by offering a computer coding club and prior to lockdown Mrs Curry started up a gardening club. We really hope that we will be able to continue to act upon your feedback in the next academic year so watch this space!

**Chris Heathcote**

**Headteacher**

## Reception Places (September 2021)

We hope that everyone who has a child starting school for the first time in September has received information regarding confirmation of their school place from Lincolnshire County Council.



We have been made aware that there are a number of Parents/Carers who did not realise that the deadline for school applications had passed. If you know of anyone who has not yet applied for a school place or who were expecting to be allocated a place here at Isaac Newton then please can you ask them to contact the school office as soon as possible. We can then support them with the application process and hopefully avoid any disappointment- school places for EYFS tend to fill up quickly!

The school office can be contacted on 01476 568616 or at [enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk).

Further information can also be found on our school website: [https://isaacnewton.eschools.co.uk/web/parents\\_1/542602](https://isaacnewton.eschools.co.uk/web/parents_1/542602).

## Free School Meals Vouchers

The local authority have announced that they will be providing all children who are eligible for free school meals (Pupil Premium) with a £15 supermarket voucher for the May Half Term Holiday.

We will be sending out a voucher via Wonde over the next couple of weeks to all Parents/ Carers of children who are eligible. We will send these to the email addresses that we hold our system so please ensure that we have your up-to-date contact details.

If you think that your child may be eligible and they are not yet registered then you will need to register their eligible via the Local Authority. Please contact the school office for further information regarding this. Or visit our school website: [https://www.isaacnewton-cit.co.uk/web/how\\_to\\_apply/469817](https://www.isaacnewton-cit.co.uk/web/how_to_apply/469817).

Your child will be eligible if you are in receipt of one or more of the following qualifying benefits:

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2019 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

## E-Schools

Please can we ask all Parents/Carers to download the E-Schools app so that we can keep you updated and informed at all times about things in school!



If you do not know your login details then please contact the school office or email [enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk).

Further information about how to get set up can also be found on our school website. [https://isaacnewton.eschools.co.uk/website/eschools\\_app\\_-\\_parents\\_help/499102](https://isaacnewton.eschools.co.uk/website/eschools_app_-_parents_help/499102)

### Cars at the Main Gate

Thank you to everyone for keeping our front gate area clear. This has helped to ensure that all of our families can enter the school safely.

### Parent Governor Vacancy

We are currently seeking to appoint a new Parent Governor. Mr Heathcote would be delighted to meet with anybody who would like to discuss the role – just book an appointment by calling the school office.

### School Shoes

Please can we remind parents that school shoes should be plain black (with black soles), without logos. If boots are worn then these should also be plain black. If children need to wear different footwear (for reasons such as medical issues) then please ensure that their class teacher is informed, in writing, as to why this is the case.

### Classes 1 and 2

This week the children have been moving their bodies like rainforest animals. This was really tricky as it was almost like yoga and the children had to find the best ways to balance, even on one foot! They enjoyed their PE so much that they even carried on during their Plan, Do, Review session.



### Classes 3 and 4

The children have enjoyed looking at the artist Marc Quinn who made sculptures out of bread – they then had ago at creating our own 'hands' using salt dough. They have also been learning about deciduous and evergreen trees and enjoyed looking in the forest school at different types of trees and tried to work out if they were deciduous or evergreen based on their leaves.

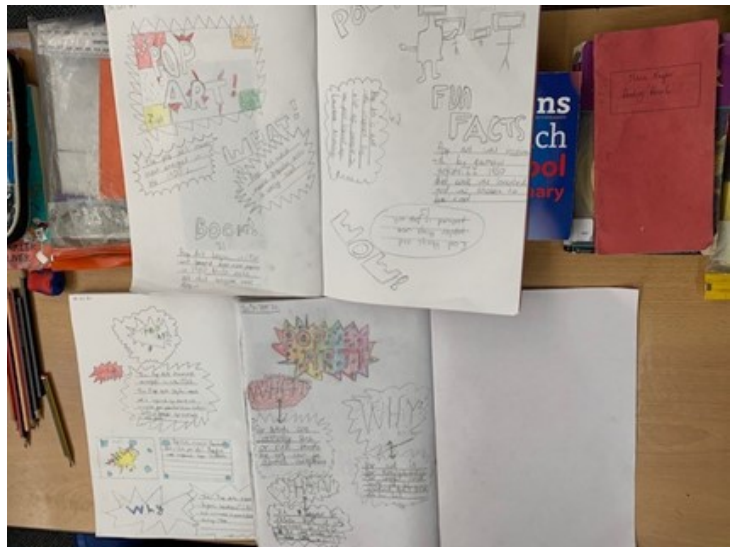


### Amazing Artwork

There's been some amazing art work going on in class 10 this week with the children developing their sketching skills! They have then applied all that they have learnt recently to create some amazing animal sketches. The sketches below are by Soeli and Olivia. They took almost 3 hours to perfect- great perseverance!



Class 12 have also begun their new art topic and are learning about Pop Art. I can't wait to see what they will be creating this term!



Class 14 never want to be outdone when it comes to amazing artwork. Below you can see some work by Brooke D and Ema. They have been creating watercolour paintings of historic buildings in Grantham as part of their local history topic. You can even see how they have developed their water colouring skills



### School Term Dates:

**Term 5:** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021 - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
*Bank Holidays:* Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May & Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021  
**Term 6:** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021



TikTok is a global video community where users create, share and discover 'funny and memorable moments' via short video clips – typically about 15 seconds long. Videos can be 'spiced up' with special effect filters, stickers, music and sound clips. Currently one of the world's most popular apps, TikTok was formerly known as Musical.ly, before it was rebranded by the Chinese company ByteDance that acquired it in November 2017. If your child had previously had a Musical.ly account, all of their videos and personal settings will have automatically been moved to TikTok. In early 2019, TikTok was hit with a record \$5.7m (£4.2m) fine in the US over child data privacy concerns for its record keeping while under the Musical.ly brand.

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# What parents need to know about **TIKTOK**

## ONLINE PREDATORS

By default, users accounts are automatically set to public when they first create an account. TikTok encourages users to share creative expression through their videos, but if posted publicly, anyone in the world can see your child's homemade content. There have also been concerns the Chinese government could access data or sway public opinion through the app. If your child's profile is open, strangers can use the app to comment on your child's videos. While this isn't always sinister, it gives potential predators the ability to contact your child through the platform.

## IN-APP PURCHASES

As with many apps, there's a paid element to TikTok. Users can buy virtual coins to be exchanged for virtual gifts – for example, if they like a specific video, your child can use coins to purchase emojis to show approval. These can be expensive and easily purchased – there is the option to buy 10,000 coins for £99.99 with a one-click buy button.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

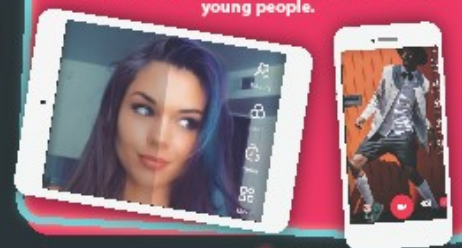
TikTok lets users lip-sync to their favourite songs and produce their own music videos. Some of the music choices contain swear words or sexual themes. So not only can children be exposed to potentially inappropriate content but they can broadcast themselves miming or singing these lyrics. In addition to this, some of the outfits and dance moves in videos can be overtly sexual and provocative. There have also been reports of some users sharing concerning content, such as videos that promote anorexia, porn, self-harm and violence.

## BEING INFLUENCED

More than one third of children aged 6-17 consider 'social media stars' to be among their top role models. There are millions of creators on TikTok, showcasing their 'talents, moments and knowledge', from singing to dancing to stunts and comedy skits, which receive thousands of likes and comments from around the world, quickly turning people into 'stars'. There is the danger that children may develop unrealistic expectations of how they should look and behave on the app in order to become the next 'star'. They may have feelings of inadequacy and low self-esteem or become swayed by certain opinions. On TikTok, there are always 'trending challenges' and hashtags that users can copy or build upon. Sometimes these challenges can pose risks to young people.



**National Online Safety**



# Top Tips for Parents

## DISCUSS THE PITFALLS OF OVERSHARING

Encourage your child to always think before they do, say, like or post anything online. Explain that their 'digital footprint' shapes their online reputation and the way that other people see them. Something they may find funny and entertaining now may impact them in the future. Talk about how to deal with peer pressure and how doing something they think will impress others could affect them. Remind them that they do not have to do anything they are not comfortable with. To ensure that there's no way of anyone tracking your child's location or identity, make it clear to them that they should never film a video in their school uniform or near a landmark that gives away where they live.

## HANDLING CRITICISM

While it's fantastic to see your child being creative and expressive and bonding with people with similar interests, they need to be aware that not everyone will be supportive online. Comments can be negative or even cruel. Make sure your child knows how to comment respectfully and handle negative feedback. In the app's Privacy and Safety settings, your child can decide who can react to their videos, who can comment, and who can send them private chat messages. We suggest altering these settings so only their friends can interact with their posts.

## REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

If you or your child sees something inappropriate on TikTok, you can flag up an account, video, comment or chat by simply tapping 'Report'. In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' feature, there's also an 'Enhanced Restricted Mode', limiting appearance of videos which may be inappropriate.

## USE A PRIVATE ACCOUNT

Setting up a private account means that only people who you and your child approve of can see their creations. To make an account private, tap the three dots at the top right of the screen to access settings. Click 'Privacy and Safety'. Scroll down until you find 'Private Account' and turn this setting on.

## SIGNING UP WITH THE CORRECT AGE

When signing up, users are prompted to input a their date of birth. If the inputted date of birth means your child is under 13, the app will block them. However, this doesn't prevent your child from lying about their age. The app is intended for users aged 13+, so explain the reason is there for a reason: to keep them protected from online dangers. It is actually possible to watch TikTok videos without creating an account, so make sure your child, if under 13, hasn't downloaded it.

## USE THE 'DIGITAL WELLBEING' SETTING

If you're concerned about how long your child is spending on TikTok, it has a setting called 'Digital Wellbeing' which allows you to manage the amount of screen time your child can have. We also advise that you turn off push notifications in the settings to prevent your child from receiving 'spam-like' notifications from TikTok that encourage users to go on the app.

## DISCUSS IN-APP PURCHASES

To lower the risk of your child making accidental in-app purchases, teach them exactly what in-app purchases are and the risks of making them without permission. Tell them that they are not essential to enjoy the app and that if they want to make a purchase, they should always ask you beforehand. In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' feature, there is the option to disable the function of purchasing coins and sending gifts.

Users can also follow the account @tiktoktips, Tik Tok's official account fronted by established Tik Tok users which offers useful online safety tips for promoting safety on its platform, rather than hiding information in FAQs.

SOURCES: support.musical.ly/knowledge-base/community-guidelines, adtkon.com/2019/02/28/tech/tiktok-its-time-children, techcrunch.com/2019/02/27/tiktok-is-launching-a-series-of-online-safety-videos-for-its-app, theguardian.com/technology/2019/feb/28/tiktok-video-sharing-app-fined-for-collection-of-childrens-data, TikTok app - Apple App Store, an.wikiwix.com/WIKI/TIKTOK, msdlipost.com/publications/article/310720/social-media-stars-influence-kids-but-parents-still.html, metro.co.uk/2017/03/17/musical.ly-everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-app-your-children-are-obsessed-with-851668/, youtube.com/watch?v=2N0e4FC0Us, youtube.com/watch?v=VYGZ1204XJM, static.mu.cdn.com/webstite/pdf/creatorPlaybook.pdf, youtube.com/watch?v=7TAQQCHtM