



The Apple



The weekly news from Isaac Newton School, Grantham

Issue: 136

Circulation: 400

Date: Friday 8th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carer

Welcome back – and a particularly warm welcome to all of our new pupils! I hope that you all had a wonderful time over the Summer.

We have a fantastic term lined up for the pupils and will be continuing with our thematic curriculum. The children will be studying the following:

Year R: Let Me Tell You a Story
Year 1/2: Polar Adventures
Year 3/4: Extreme Weather
Year 5/6: Terrible Tudors

We are sure that the children will be inspired by these themes and I can't wait to see the work that is produced. As I write many of the Year 6 pupils are on residential at PGL. They are having a fantastic time taking part in a range of activities. It has been brilliant to go away so early in the year. It helps to build bonds and ensures that the Year 6 team have a rounded view of your child. We are always amazed by the range of skills and abilities that we see whilst we are away. Thank you to all Parents and Carers who have been so supportive in ensuring that this could happen so early in the term.

Prior to the summer break we managed to establish a link with a school in Australia. Many of our classes wrote a letter, to children of the same age within the school, about school life in Grantham. This week we were really excited to get letters back and delighted to have communicated with a school literally on the other side of the world!

We have used the rest of the newsletter to give you some useful reminders. Please, please, please read the section about labelling uniform. You would not believe how many items are lost during the first half term!

Paul Hill
Headteacher

Breakfast Club

If you require a place in Breakfast Club then please remember to book in at the school office. This means that we can be prepared for the pupils who will be attending. In an emergency it is always worth phoning to check if there is a place left prior to arriving so that you will not be disappointed if you turn up and we are full.

Parking

Unfortunately, we have had two incidents due to inconsiderate parking and driving during the school run. Please remember that we must always set a good example to the pupils, both in the way that we act and the things that we say.

Inhalers

As a school we take the administration of medicines extremely seriously. All children who need to bring inhalers to school should also bring the box for the inhaler with them. This will have the sticker from the surgery on the side and ensures that we have all of the information that we need should there be an emergency. You will also need to check that the inhaler is "in date". If your child needs an inhaler and you have not let us know then please inform us immediately.

Labelling School Uniform

At the start of the school year many pupils have **new uniform and P.E. kit**. It is essential that all school clothing is **labelled** with the pupil's **full name**. It becomes almost impossible to track down lost clothing if a name label is not present.

Coats for Winter Weather

A number of children arrived at school without coats this week. Can all Parents/Carers please ensure that children have a suitable coat for school.

Attendance

As a school we are desperate to ensure that all pupils fulfil their potential. The attendance of pupils forms a hugely important part of their ability to do well at school and as such will remain a major focus in the coming year. Mrs Anderson is in charge of attendance at the school and will be in touch with Parents/Carers should we have any concerns. The table below shows how much learning time can be missed if children have time off school. It would be great if they all got off to a great start this year. We aspire for all children to achieve a 95% attendance rate each year.



Percentage Attendance	Days off per year	School Time Missed By Year 6
100%	0	0
95%	9½	$\frac{1}{3}$ of a school year
90%	19	$\frac{2}{3}$ of a school year
85%	28½	1 whole school year
80%	38	One and $\frac{1}{3}$ school years
75%	47½	1 and $\frac{2}{3}$ school years

Pirate Ship

Many of you will know that the Pirate Ship on the KS1 playground was taken out of action just before the summer break. Over the holiday we have assessed the condition of the Pirate Ship and have concluded that after years of good service the cost of repairs do not represent good value for money. As such we are working with the Community Inclusive Trust (the team of people who look after our group of academies) in order to remove the ship and then decide upon ways to improve the Infant Play Areas.

Whilst we establish the best and most cost effective solution please do not allow your children onto the ship either before or after school.

E-safety

The beginning of the school year is a great time to remind your child(ren) of the need to be safe whilst using electronic devices which can access the internet. If your child be uses a phone, laptop, computer, tablet or other internet enabled device over the half term break then please remember to go over the SMART rules with them.



Volunteers

We would love to see more Parents/Carers helping out at school on a regular basis. If you have an hour a week to spare and would like to help out in school then please complete the form below. We will then hold an induction session to show the areas in which you may be able to help.

Once we have collected all of the responses Mrs Pask will contact you.

"

I would like to help out in school at a regular weekly time:

Name: _____

Name of your child: _____

Child's Class: _____

"

Dates for your Diary:

- 13th Sept Year 3 Stibbington Visit
- 14th Sept Year 4 Stibbington Visit and Residential
- 5th Oct Family Bingo
- 18th Oct School Discos
- 20th Oct Last Day at School
- 30th Oct INSET day – No Children
- 31st Oct Children Return to School

School Term Dates:

- Term 1 5 Sept - 20 Oct
- October Break**
- Term 2 31 Oct - 20 Dec
- Christmas Break**
- Term 3 4 Jan - 9 Feb
- February Break**
- Term 4 19 Feb – 29 Mar
- Easter Break**
- Term 5 16 Apr - 25 May
- May Break**
- Term 6 5 Jun - 20 Jul
- Summer Holiday**

Family Bingo

We will hold a family bingo event on 5th October at 3:30pm in the Studio Hall. Tickets are on sale in the school office for £1.50 (hotdog included)

Halloween Disco

The Halloween Discos will take place on 18th October.

- Years 1 and 2 4:30pm until 5:30pm - £1 including crisps and a drink.
- Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 6:15pm-7:15pm - £1.50 including crisps, a drink and disco hire.

Please note that Reception children do not attend discos in the first term.