



The Apple



The news from Isaac Newton School, Grantham

Volume 3 Issue: 068

Circulation: 420

Date: Friday 1st July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,
Well we've certainly be very lucky with the weather recently and have been making the most of it here in school- including with a visit from Franks' Ice Cream Van!

I've been seeing lots of practising for Sports Day as well as children making use of our Forest School. It has also been great to see our younger children exploring new areas at playtime. Our Key Stage One pupils have been out on the field and the main playground and our EYFS children have been on the Key Stage One playground. They've really enjoyed this and it is also a great way of getting them prepared for next year!



Speaking of transition, letters have gone out today via E-Schools with information about your child's classroom and teacher for next year. There are also posters up in classroom windows. If you are not yet on E-Schools then please ensure that you provide the office with your details otherwise you will not receive this or any other letters! We are sending these letters out early, rather than with reports, to ensure that we have time to do some extra transitions session for those children who we feel would benefit.



Our Year 6s have been on their residential this week. They've had a great time at PGL and have taken part in a range of activities as well as eating LOTS of food! Mrs Pask has joined the children for part of this, as Miss Jones had a bit of a fall and hurt her elbow on the first day. Unfortunately she then had to go home part way through the second day but she is ok and we hope to see her back in school next week. A huge thank you to all the staff who have made this residential possible: Mrs Walker, Laura, Mrs Roberts, Miss Jones...and Mrs Pask (super sub).



Mr Heathcote

Headteacher

Grantham Town Sports Competition

We took a team of children from years 3-6 to the Grantham Meres Stadium to compete in the annual Town Sports Athletic Event. With a mixture of sprint, throwing, jumping and relay events the children were all excited for the afternoon. We are so proud and pleased to say they won the event!! A fantastic team effort, a huge amount of medals and a very large shield to bring back to school. Well done everyone and as always a huge thank you to Mrs Walker and Laura for their hard work!!



Important Dates

Term 6:	Monday 6 th June 2022 - Thursday 21 st July 2022
8th July	EYFS & Key Stage One Sports Day
11th July	Year 5 Gainsborough Hall Visit
11th July	Summer Faye (3.30pm)
12th July	Y6 Harry Potter Studio Visit
13th July	Music Concert (Violins & Class 6)
13th July	Reports sent out to Parents/ Carers
14th July	Key Stage Two Sports Day at Meres Leisure Centre (AM)
15th July	Transition Morning (New Classes)

Safeguarding

Should you have any concerns regarding the safety or wellbeing of a child then you should report this immediately. You can report this to the school or directly to Children and Young People's Services (Social Services).

Children and Young People's Services Emergency Contact Information Lincolnshire:

During Office hours contact the Children Services Customer Service Centre (CSC) on 01522 782111.
Email: lscb@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Out of Office Hours (24-hours) contact the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 01522 782333.



The Designated Safeguarding Lead in school is Mrs Beeby. Safeguarding concerns can also be reported to Mr Heathcote or Mrs Pask who are the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Warm Weather

As the weather improves it is essential that children are protected against the sun and are well hydrated. As such can Parents/Carers please ensure that children have either school water bottles (available from the office) or a transparent water bottle. If children are able to apply their own sun cream then they should bring it in a bottle labelled with their name. This will then be stored in school by the class teacher who will allow time for application prior to periods of time spent outside. If you choose to apply sun cream prior to school then please be aware that it is unlikely to last until the main outdoor period at lunch time. As such please ensure that you check that the sun cream states that it will last for the whole day if applying before school. All sun cream should be at least factor 30.



Music Concert

We will be holding a music concert for Parents/ Carers of children who have violin tuition or are in Class 6 (as this class have been learning the recorder this term). This will take place in our school hall from approximately 2pm. Further details and tickets will be sent out to you nearer the time.



Summer Fayre

We will be holding a Summer Fayre on Monday 11th July at 3.30pm on the school field. This will finish at approximately 4.30- 5.00pm. Below are some further details and we hope to see many of you there!

If you are able to help with any of the following donations they will be gratefully received:

- Tombola items
 - Fill a jar with sweets (sweet stall)
 - Cuddly toys in good condition (teddy tombola)
 - Toys, books, puzzles in good condition (toy and book stall)
- All above to be in school by Thursday 7th July*
- Cakes – *please bring in on the day Monday 11th July*

If you would like to help out in any way then please contact Mrs Toole via the school office.



House Games

This week we have completed rounders house games with Year 5 and 6. With the houses all playing each other and following the rounders tournament rules, the children played some very impressive rounders. The winners for Year 6 were Saunders and for Year 5 were Foale.



Sports Days

Sports days are approaching quickly. As ever we will expect all children to participate unless their Parents/Carers have discussed any injuries or issues with the pupil's class teacher.

Sports Day for pupils in Years 3-6 will take place on 14th July. Children should arrive at school at the usual time in their PE kit. It would be great if as many pupils as possible were able to wear a t-shirt in the colour of their house. As soon as the registers have been taken we will set off for the Meres. Parents/Carers should meet us there (we hope to begin at approximately 9:30am). All of the children should be back at school in time for lunchtime as usual.

Sports day for pupils in the Foundation Stage and Years 1/2 will take place on 8th July. Again pupils should arrive in their PE kit. Parents and Carers should drop their children off as normal and then head to the school field. We will register the children and then bring them onto the school field as quickly as possible in readiness for the races.

Please remember to send in a hat and a water bottle. You should also ensure that pupils have applied sun cream prior to their arrival at school.

For both sports days we would love to see as many Parents/Carers and Grandparents as possible!



Year 5/6 Tennis Tournament

Last week we took 8 children to the Grantham Tennis Club to compete in the Tennis Tournament. They played a round robin of games against other schools. Much improvement was made in their technique and for some this was the first time they had represented school. Well done everyone!!!



Healthy Snacks

Free fruit is available to ALL children in school FREE OF CHARGE! Please can you encourage your child to eat at least one piece of school fruit a day and take advantage of this fantastic initiative!

As a school we are looking to try and stop all unhealthy snacks at break times and will therefore be offering children pieces of fruit as an alternative to any unhealthy snacks which we spot. We would appreciate it if you could support us by ensuring that your child does not come to school with unhealthy snacks such as chocolate biscuits, packets of crisps and sweets.



We are also part of the 'magic breakfast' scheme and provide all children with a bagel or gluten-free toast each morning to get their day off to a good start!

Belton House National Trust Books

Last week Mrs Walker and Mrs Haddock took two librarians to Belton House to deliver a donation of books for their book shop. The National Trust were delighted with the amount donated, with many on the shelves immediately for sale. Many thanks to Mrs Walker for organising and the children for their impeccable behaviour!



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MINECRAFT



Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming. First released in 2011, this open-ended 'sandbox' game of building and exploration still has over 140 million players who happily return to play it at least once every month. Minecraft has also been utilised for much more than just entertainment: it's sometimes used in schools to teach children coding, and it's also employed as a tool for computer-aided design, which is another valuable skill. Encouraging creativity and problem solving, Minecraft has plenty to offer gamers of all ages, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVERS

Joining a public network (called a server) lets your child potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to role-playing - encouraging direct player interaction. Anyone can join public servers and connecting to one is relatively simple. Public server IP addresses (and therefore someone's location) are easy to find with search engines.

GRIEFING

Some people in Minecraft delight in purposefully damaging or destroying another player's creation. This is called 'griefing' and is a form of bullying: it intentionally spoils someone else's experience in the game by deleting hours of their work and forcing them to start from scratch. Many public servers treat griefing as a severe offence and frequently ban offenders.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and the outcome (when a child has built something new, for instance) can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive, it's easy to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, causing committed young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.

SCARY ELEMENTS

The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposefully child friendly, so there's nothing too unworldly in the game. However, some of the 'beddies' that can be encountered might prove a little too scary for very young players. In the game, certain enemies come out at night and are accompanied by music - such as zombie moans and skeletons bone rattles - that may unsettle young ones.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After initially buying the game, players can make optional extra purchases for cosmetic items and other bonuses. Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription (requiring regular payments) that lets users run a multiplayer server to play with their friends. Most games consoles also need an active subscription to enable online play - so online gaming can quickly become an expensive hobby.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are a lot of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube and Twitch. Not all of these, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate Minecraft videos to share with your children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself, and how your child plays it.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of moaning zombies or creepers damaging your build.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for your child to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given the necessary joining details. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and - if necessary - to ban someone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft.

ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy for the hours to fly by while your child is playing Minecraft, so reminding them to take regular breaks is essential. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play their favourite games in moderation - limiting addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their day better.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone needs to have contact with a stranger online. Talking to your child about online safety, therefore, is essential - as is having a plan in place for dealing with any hostile or difficult strangers. Ensure that your child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

Meet Our Expert

Cara Dewar (a.k.a. Lunewed) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2016, providing websites with expert coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunewed Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@nationalonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety