



The Apple



The weekly news from Isaac Newton School, Grantham

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Dear Parents/Carer

What a fantastic half term it has been. The children have worked so hard this and have made fantastic progress. We are so proud of their achievements. As a school, we have focussed on our Respect Value since the start of the summer term through our personal development and celebration assemblies. This has been really successful with lots of children having treats on a Friday afternoon after they were 'Caught being respectful' by staff. Next term, this will change to **Resilience** where we will be encouraging the children to try their hardest in all aspects of school life. We encourage them to push themselves, in a safe nurturing environment and to feel it is ok to make mistakes, learn from them and improve.

Reminders

Please can I remind all parents and carers about the importance of punctuality. Arriving late for school not only means your child will miss out on their learning, research has shown that children can feel anxious too. The missed work, will be difficult to catch up on so please make every effort to arrive between 8.50 – 9 am every day. If you are having difficulties getting your child to school, please contact us for support.

Transition arrangements

We understand how important an effective transition is for our children. Not only those who are joining us for the first time in Foundation stage but also for those who are moving up the school and also for our Year 6 children, who will be leaving us at the end of the year to join their chosen secondary schools.

The vast majority of our year 6 pupils will be out at some point during week commencing Monday 4th July - you should have received communications directly from them. Please get in touch with your class teacher, the school office or a member of the Senior Leadership Team if you are unsure.

For all other children we will be having two dates for transition. These will be on Thursday 29th June (pm) and Wednesday 5th July (am). This is a crucial time for children to get to know their new teacher, their new class environments and expectations. We will send further information about this, nearer the time.

Parking around school

Please can we ask that all families are considerate and respectful when parking around school at drop off and collection times? There have been several complaints from residents about people blocking driveways, thus preventing access to private property. This could be a huge safety concern as this could also prevent the emergency services from doing their job. Many thanks for your cooperation with this.

Mr D. Milner
Headteacher

Staff announcement

Mrs Moorcroft will be taking over as SENDco for Isaac Newton from the start of half term. She has had an effective handover with Mrs Beeby to ensure the children's needs are all met and she is very keen get started in her new role.

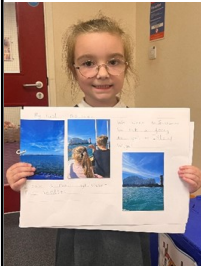
We held interviews for Mrs Beeby's replacement this week. I am pleased to say there were a number of eminently qualified applicants and we have appointed. The new member of staff, who will start in September, will be announced after half term.

Safeguarding Update

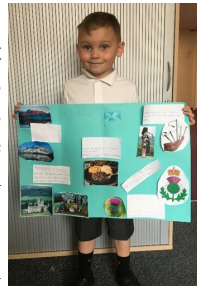
As a school community we must remember that keeping our children safe is everyone's responsibility. We always appreciate your support and thank you for reporting concerns when you see or hear of incidents outside school.

Home learning

Oscar did some brilliant facts all about Scotland Great work at home with his mum! Well done. He was interested in this because his 'Mama' is from Scotland.



Antonina created an amazing fact file at home, all about the Isle of White which is linked with their seaside topic!



Year 4 Residential - Stibbington Centre

This term, the Year 4's enjoyed their annual residential trip to Stibbington. They took part in many Art activities including making photograms, clay pressing and creating installation art using natural resources. The evening was spent around a campfire and toasting marshmallows. Which fortunately came with beautiful weather too! On the second day, the children took part in team building activities, where it was great to see all the children pulling together to cross imaginary seas on crates to rescue a polar bear and to build a shelter to protect them from the rain (this was tested out, followed with many screams of excitement from the children!) Overall, it was a very successful trip enjoyed by both children and staff and the children were a delight to take away. Unfortunately, it will be our last trip to Stibbington as the centre is closing in September but, we are currently looking for new residential location for the next year.



Sports events

Last week we took a group of children to the Year 3/4 Tennis Festival held at Grantham Tennis Club. We are incredibly lucky to have Lewis, a tennis coach, work with our children over lunchtimes and he selected a small group to take part. The children completed a variety of skill based activities, boosting their knowledge and understanding of the game of tennis. They were fantastic all afternoon, taking part with huge smiles on their faces. Well done to you all, you represented our school fantastically!!



Over the past 6 weeks our Year 5 children have been working alongside Max, a cricket coach from the Belvoir Cricket and Countryside Trust. They have learned how to strike the ball, how to aim and bowl at the wickets and how to score runs. The children have been incredibly enthusiastic every week, listening and taking on board lots of new skills and advice from a specialist! Thank you to Max for working with the children, we have thoroughly enjoyed having you in school and hope to have you back again next year!

A group of Year 5 children have been taking part in a fitness mentoring programme with Kane from Inspire+. They have been working on aspirations for the future and how they can become more physically active. They have set themselves targets, with many identifying areas where they could take part in more activities away from screens and technology. They have worked so hard over the past 6 weeks and we look forward to hearing about all the goals they have achieved.

Dates For Your Diary:

15 th /16 th May	Year 4 Residential at Stibbington
26 th May	Half term
5 th June	Term 6 Starts
6 th June	Class 5 at Ferry Meadows
7 th June	Class 6 at Ferry Meadows
13 th June	Year 5 at Burleigh House
20 th June	Year 5 Knipton Day
26 th June	Class 11 Belvoir Farm Day
27 th June	KS2 Meres Sports Day
28 th June	Class 12 Belvoir Farm Day
29th June	Transition Afternoon
5th July	Transition Morning
6 th July	Year 3 Roman Day (Theatre in school)
7 th July	Reports out to parents
19th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly (6:30pm)
21 st July	End of the academic year
4 th & 5 th September 2023	INSET days (School closed for ALL pupils)
6th September	Start of Autumn Term

Thank you to Kane for working alongside our children, they really enjoyed the opportunity!

This week children in Year 3 have begun their intra-school house competitions. All will take part in rounders and cricket based games, showcasing all they have learned throughout the term. We have seen some excellent play and great sportsmanship from all. So far the winners in Rounders for Year 3 were Robertson (red house) More results will follow after half term!



Online safety

National Online Safety produce online help guides known as #wakepewednesday to keep children safe online. This week, we are focussing on on-line bullying. This is defined as 'Ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online'

Cyber bullying makes it's victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms: hurtful comments on a person's post; deliberately leaving people out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos about someone or spreading gossip. Cyber bullying can seriously damage a young person's mental health!

All National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues that we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationallinesafety.org for further guides, blogs and tips for online.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HOW TO COMBAT ONLINE BULLYING

Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile; deliberately leaving them out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone; or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health – so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.

- 1. GET CONNECTED**

Playing online games together with your child or connecting with them on social media (providing they're old enough) is not only fun but also an excellent way of establishing some common ground to discuss things you've both seen or done online – as well as keeping an eye on who your child is communicating with in the digital world.
- 2. KEEP TALKING**

Regular chats with young people about their online lives are good practice in general, but they can also be an excellent refresher to help prevent cyber-bullying situations. Topics that might want to revisit include why it's not relevant to only connect online with people we know and trust, and why bystanders should always remain silent (even from our best friends).
- 3. STAY VIGILANT**

Observe your child while they're using technology and just enter their world if needed. Are they acting normally, or out of character? Possible signs of a problem may include seeming quiet or withdrawn, lumpy or anxious, angry or repeatedly checking their phone, when you feel it's the right time, you may want to check in with them to see if everything is OK.
- 4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE**

If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just gently remind them that they can always come to you with any problems – and that they won't be in trouble. You might also suggest a trusted family member; they could turn to, in case they feel too embarrassed to tell you directly.
- 5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN**

When conversations about online bullying do take place, they're likely to be difficult, emotional and something for both you and your child. Actively listen to your child while they're bringing you up to speed, and try not to show any judgement or criticism – even if they haven't dealt with the situation in exactly the way you would have hoped.
- 6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD**

Depending on their age, your child might not want a parent 'fighting their battles' for them. In that case, talk through their options with them (blocking the perpetrator, deleting the app and so on). By allowing your child to choose the path they take, you're putting them in control but are also demonstrating that you're there to support them along the way.
- 7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE**

Cyber-bullying often takes place through a broadcast app, social media platform or online game. If this is happening to your child, encourage them to report the offender in the app or game in question – ideally with screenshots to support their complaint. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to stamp out abusive behaviour and protect users.
- 8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY**

Preceding themselves online is the priority of course, but young people should also feel empowered to help if they witness other people being victim to cyberbullying. Even if they don't feel confident enough to call someone out on their abusive behaviour online, they can still confidentially report that person to the app or game where the bullying occurred.
- 9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE**

Victims of online bullying frequently experience feelings of isolation and anxiety, a loss of self-esteem and potentially even thoughts of self-harm or suicide. If you think that an incident of cyber-bullying has affected your child's mental wellbeing, then seek psychological support for them. There are some useful contact details in the central panel below.
- 10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES**

If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is genuinely in imminent physical danger – or if there are any signs whatsoever of self-harm or suicide being aimed at as part of the bullying – then you should gather any relevant screenshots as evidence and report the incidents to your local police force.

FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE

If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to.

Childline talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 1111 or online at www.childline.org.uk/get-support/

National Bullying Helpline: counsellors are available on 0845 225 5757 or by visiting www.nationallinesafety.org.uk/cyberbullying.html

The NSPCC: the children's charity has a guide to the signs of bullying at www.nspcc.org.uk/what-to-worry-about/signs-of-bullying-and-cyberbullying/ and can be reached on 0800 800 8000

Meet Our Expert

Dr Celia Bithornell is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government concerning internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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None of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is assumed here. Current as of the date of release: 09.11.2023

National Online Safety have now produced an app with lots of useful advice, support and guides around being safe online. Find out more by going to <https://info.nationallinesafety.com/mobile-app>