



The Apple

The weekly news from Isaac Newton School, Grantham



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Dear Parents/Carer

It has been another extremely busy and successful few weeks here at school. There have been lots of trips and visits taking place including our Year 5 and 6 trip to 'The Deep'. It sounds like the children had a wonderful time: exploring the aquarium, watching sharks being fed and even making slime! I'm also pleased to hear that the breaking down of the bus didn't spoil the trip for our Year 5 children and would once again like to thank our Parents/ Carers for their patience and understanding whilst this was happening. A huge well done to the children too who didn't let this phase them in the slightest. We are immensely proud of all our children's behaviour and conduct when they are outside of school - we can always rely on them to demonstrate the very highest of standards.

Our Year 2 children also had a visit this week. A company called Partake Theatre came into school to deliver a workshop based around the fairy tale of 'Sleeping Beauty'. The children all got dressed up and acted out the story fantastically well!



On Tuesday, the whole school took part in a Chinese New Year Day. The children made lots of things including Chinese lanterns, Chinese dragons and Chinese drums. One of the dragons went for a tour around the school accompanied by music from the drums!



This will be my last newsletter before the half term break. Please remember that school will break up for half term on Thursday 14th February- teachers will be in for a training day (INSET) on Friday 15th. I would like to wish you all a restful half term break and look forward to seeing all the children back at school on Monday 25th February.

Chris Heathcote

Headteacher

Swimarathon

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of those members of the school community who came to the Rotary Club Swimarathon last Sunday. It was incredible to fill each lane in the pool and a tremendous effort by all. We have raised over £2000 for the Rotary club which is fantastic. A special thank you goes to Mrs Toole for organising and coordinating the event!



Dates For Your Diary:

14 th February	Last Day of Term
15 th February	Staff INSET Day
7 th March	World Book Day
13 th March	Parents Evening (Late)
14 th March	Parents evening
15 th March	Comic Relief

Sportshall Athletics

A huge congratulations to our sportshall athletics team (made up of girls and boys from Years 5 and 6) who came first in the Large School Sportshall Athletics competition at the Meres last week.



They will now go on to represent South West Lincolnshire in the Level 3 School Games County finals on Friday 28th June. The Isaac Newton team finished a convincing 24 points ahead of the school in second place. Well done team!

Gymnastics Competition

The Year 2 children took part in their first ever gymnastics competition. They performed in front of a large audience and we are very proud of their achievements. They all received a certificate for taking part in the event!



Lateness

This term we will be having a push to ensure that all children are arriving at school in time to begin the school day with the rest of their class. When a child arrives late at school, they miss valuable learning time. This is something that we must ensure does not happen. The table below shows the way in which lateness can add up over time to make a huge difference to the amount of time that children are spending at school. We teach essential skills during the first session each morning and any lateness can make a massive difference to pupils' progress. We welcome children into school at 8:50am each day. Children are considered to be late if they arrive after 9:00am.

Number of minutes late a day	Number of days missed a year!
5	1 and a half days
10	2 and three quarter days
15	4 and a quarter days
20	5 and three quarter days (over a school week)
25	7 days
30	8 and a half days

This is based on children spending 5 hours and 20 minutes in class each day.

Free School Meals Applications

If you believe that your child may be eligible for free school meals then please apply online via the Parent Portal:

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals/>

The website also provides criteria explaining who is eligible. If you require any support with this then please speak to the school office.

Rock Climbing

When they are in Years 5 and 6, the children have the opportunity to go rock climbing at the Meres. These sessions take place weekly. It has proved to be very popular with so many of the children and shows just how many fantastic opportunities Isaac Newton provides for its pupils. We are



very fortunate to have our dedicated PE team of: Mrs Atter, Mrs Walker and Laura, who work very hard to organise so many sporting activities and events.

Facebook and Twitter

Don't forget that you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter. We use both platforms to let you know of any significant updates during the week and also to show what has been going on in school.

Mrs Wilkinson's Class (Class 12)

As many of you will be aware, following my newsletter in January, Mrs Wilkson will be leaving Isaac Newton due to her move to Leicestershire. Mrs Wilkinson has now confirmed that she will be leaving at the end of this half term so her final day with the children will be Thursday 14th February. I'd like to take this opportunity to once again wish Mrs Wilkinson all the best for the future and thank her for all her years of hard work at Isaac Newton. We are in the process of appointing her replacement, however this person will not be able to start until after Easter. In the meantime, Mrs Pask will be taking over from Mrs Wilksinson, alongside Miss Meads- who will continue to teach the class for the equivalent of 3 days a week.

Tennis Centre

A group of Year 4 children were lucky enough to visit the Grantham Tennis Centre on Thursday. They played tennis against Andrew Castle and Annabel Croft and got to practise lots of different tennis skills. What a fantastic opportunity to meet two real-life tennis celebrities!

