



# The Apple



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

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## Dear Parents/Carers

It has been such a pleasure to welcome all of the children back into school this week! We've all been amazed by how well they have settled back into routines and have enjoyed seeing all of their happy, smiley faces again.

Our teachers have been making sure that the children have been working hard and have already been impressed by some of the wonderful work that they have produced! I've included some examples in my newsletter.



I've also seen some excellent work that the children have done at home. I'd like to say a huge thank and well done to all Parents/ Carers for the efforts and lengths that you have gone to during the lockdown to support your child with their home learning. I do not yet have children of school age myself (my eldest son starts school in September) so I can only imagine the challenge that some of you have had when trying to balance this alongside your day-to-day lives.



I am incredibly proud to say that we had 95% of our pupils engaged in remote learning during the lockdown (13% above the national average). This is a huge achievement and a real credit to the hard work of our school staff and the support of our Parents/Carers.... oh, and also to our fantastic children too!



I am very much looking forward to the remainder of this academic year and remain cautiously optimistic that we may soon be able to return to some semblance of normality. I will ensure that the school stays up-to-date with all the latest Government guidance and hope that we will continue to be able to keep our children in school and learning with their teachers and their peers for the foreseeable future.



**Chris Heathcote**

**Headteacher**

## Reading at home

Reading at home is one of the most important ways that Parents/ Carers can support their child with their school work! The more that children read the more that they develop in this area. We recommend that children read at home AT LEAST 3 times a week however where possible this should be daily. Here are a few of our top tips:



- Have regular reading times that children can become used to e.g. after lunch or before bed are popular times.
- Have a variety of reading materials ranging from pictures books, chapter books, magazines, comics, web research and audio books. All children at school have a log in for MyOn which provides access to a range of online books. Further information can be found on our school website: [https://www.isaacnewton-cit.co.uk/web/reading\\_inc\\_phonics/447861](https://www.isaacnewton-cit.co.uk/web/reading_inc_phonics/447861)
- Lead by example—let them see you reading.
- Reading talk— talk to them about what they enjoy reading and get them to explain why. This can help with future book choices.

- Create a reading challenge at home—bit of competition for siblings, a way to motivate. An idea could be, if you read for four nights, I will read on the 5th night. Or how many pages can we read in a week?
- Most importantly do what you can and enjoy reading!

If you would like to hear some of our teachers reading stories or listen to these with your child at home then please visit the virtual library on the 'pupils' section of our school website: [https://www.isaacnewton-cit.co.uk/web/virtual\\_library/544462](https://www.isaacnewton-cit.co.uk/web/virtual_library/544462)



### Applying for a place in Reception next year

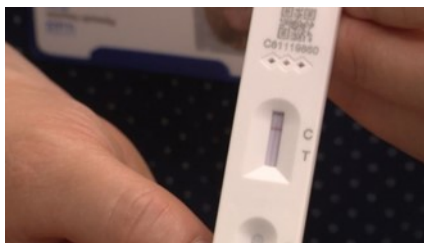
Children born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 are due to start Reception in September 2021. **You still need to apply even if you already have another child at the school!**

The window for applying for a place in Reception has closed. If your child is 4 this school year (September 21 to August 22) and you haven't applied for a school place then you need to contact Lincolnshire County Council as soon as possible. Further information can be found on our school website, including a link to the admissions portal: [https://isaacnewton.eschools.co.uk/website/eyfs\\_new\\_intake\\_2021/514636](https://isaacnewton.eschools.co.uk/website/eyfs_new_intake_2021/514636).

### Covid-19 Testing at Home

Rapid lateral flow tests are available for free to all families and households with primary, secondary school and college aged children and young people, including childcare and support bubbles. You can find out more about how to get these tests at the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>. Your child DOES NOT need to take a test to attend school.

If your child tests positive on a lateral flow test then you must inform the school immediately and book a confirmatory PCR test. PCR tests can be booked online and can be done at a testing centre or via the post.



Please do not use a lateral flow test to determine whether or not your child is ok to come to school. If your child has symptoms of Covid-19 then they MUST NOT attend school until they have undertaken a PCR test to determine whether or not they have the virus.

### Comic Relief

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March all children can come into school wearing something red in return for a small donation of up to £1. They should continue to be in full school uniform apart from this item of clothing. Children may decide to wear red socks, a red jumper, a red t-shirt or just a red nose. We will also be holding a competition in school to find out which class can come up with the best joke!



### Litter



We have had complaints from local residents about the amount of litter being dropped outside of school. Please can you ensure that you encourage your child to put their litter in the bin and help to keep our community tidy. We will be reminding children of this in school and will also be doing some work with our school council about how we can encourage good habits.

### 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)

### School Meals

Parents/ Carers now need to order and pay for their meals directly from Ideal Meals at [www.schoolmealsonline.com](http://www.schoolmealsonline.com). This new system has been running since last year. If you need any support with this or with setting up an account then please contact the school office.



If your child is entitled to free school meals (pupil premium) or universal free school meals (all children in EYFS- Year 2) and you have forgotten to place your order then please do not worry. Your child will automatically be ordered a '1D' option. We have noticed that there have been significantly less children having school meals this week and we think that it may be due to Parents/ Carers of free school meals children being unaware of this. Please encourage your child to have a school meal where possible. If you are paying for school meals then unfortunately your child **will not** automatically be ordered a meal unless you have done so using your online account.

### School Exit (Side Gate)

A big thank you to all Parents/Carers for keeping their distance at the school gates (especially the side gate which goes out onto Warmington Avenue). A further thank you for also continuing to follow our one way system. We did have some issues with this before Christmas but things have worked really well so far! By supporting us with this you are helping to keep everyone safe and ensure that 2 metre social distancing can be observed at all times when on the school site.

### School Term Dates:

<b>Term 1:</b>	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2020 – Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2020
<b>Term 2:</b>	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020 - Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
<i>Bank Holidays:</i>	<i>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> &amp; Monday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2020, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021</i>
<b>Term 3:</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 - Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
<b>Term 4:</b>	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021 - Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
<i>Bank Holidays:</i>	<i>Good Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April &amp; Easter Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021</i>
<b>Term 5:</b>	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021 - Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
<i>Bank Holidays:</i>	<i>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May &amp; Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021</i>
<b>Term 6:</b>	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 - Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2021