



## Dear Parents/Carers

What a wonderful fortnight it has been since the last Newsletter was published. There have been a number of sporting events, an off site trip and we are showcasing our usual range high quality work produced in school and at home.

## Year 6 Leavers Assembly

This year, we will be having our special Year 6 Leavers Assembly on Monday 21st July from 2pm. The assembly is expected to last for up to an hour. As usual, there will be memories shared by some of our Year 6 pupils where they will highlight events from this year and from earlier in their school life. Please save the date, we will send out tickets nearer the time.

*Another reminder that during week commencing 12th May, Year 6 will be taking their SATs tests so please do no book holidays during this week or the weeks leading up to them.*

## Out of school Achievements

We really want to know about your child's out of school achievements, please email the school office on [enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk) with information or send their hard work into school, and we will celebrate this in our next Newsletter which will be published on Friday 4th April, on social media and during our Celebration Assemblies!

## Year 6 trip to the Deep

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, Year 6 travelled up to the Deep in Hull. At feeding time in one of the tanks and saw among the fish a Sawfish, a Turtle, a Ray and various sharks swim close the window.



Later we attended a workshop looking at pollution in the oceans and how to reduce plastic waste by recycling. The highlight of the return journey was crossing on the Humber Bridge.



Mr Milner  
Headteacher.

## Attendance

It is parents and carers responsibility to inform the school office if their child(ren) are going to be absent from school. Please do this by calling 01476 568616 **before 9.30am**. In addition to this, please ensure the children arrive in school by 8.50am. If they are late, they miss out on valuable learning

Attendance by Class for the last two weeks.

### How many classes are above 96%

Class 1	96%	Class 8	96%
Class 2	97.8%	Class 9	96.9%
Class 3	92.1%	Class 10	93.8%
Class 4	91.9%	Class 11	96%
Class 5	94.3%	Class 12	94.5%
Class 6	97.7%	Class 13	94.5%
Class 7	98.6%	Class 14	93.8%

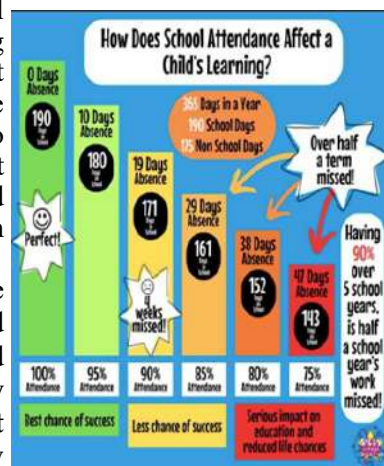
Congratulations to classes 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 11 for having attendance above 96%.

time. **Both gates open at 8.40, classroom doors are open at 8.45am and learning starts from 8.50am.**

## Medical Appointments

Photocopies of medical letters or of medical appointments are really useful and will mean that these absences will be authorised. Thanks you for your support with this.

Here is a reminder of the impact of having below 90% attendance. If this continues over a five-year period, this is equivalent to half a school year's worth of lost learning that will result in significant gaps. Mr Richards and the attendance team continue to work hard to support families, offer advice and help get children back in school so they can flourish. A reminder that the government have updated their guidance connected with attendance. Any holidays, which **have not** been authorised, will now result in a fine from the local authority. In addition to this, ten unauthorised sessions (five



## Easter Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)



Easter HAF bookings open Tuesday 18th March!

We are delighted to share with you that our bookings for our Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme Easter holiday clubs can be made from Tuesday 18th March!

Easter 2025 Delivery Dates:

Easter HAF will take place during the Easter holidays running from Monday 7th – Tuesday 22nd April (excluding bank holidays and weekends).

Where will the clubs be taking place?

There are over 100 clubs being delivered across the county during the Easter holidays. Our mapping tool on our HAF Webpage will be available soon to highlight the HAF provision being delivered across the county.

How to Book:

To book on to a club, families will require a HAF Evoucher code which will be provided by schools on Tuesday 18th March.

The HAF Evoucher, received by email and/or text message, includes a link to the booking site listing available activities.

*If you have any questions in the meantime, please get in touch via [HAF@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:HAF@lincolnshire.gov.uk)*

### School Council

During our most recent School Council meeting last week, we discussed the following:

Mr Milner began the meeting by welcoming our new Deputy School Counsellors. He asked what inspirational women the children had discussed within their classes. Some responses were: Queen Elizabeth, Queen Victoria, Mums and Step-mums, Grandma's, Swimming Teachers and some female members of staff from Isaac Newton (Mrs Gaze and Miss Freeman).

We then discussed the type of KS1 Playground equipment the children would like. Some of these can be implemented immediately whereas others will require fundraising.

We then had a discussion regarding the clubs that the children would like to have available to them both during and after school. There were lots of ideas (some of which are already up and running) and a huge variety. Some examples included: Art and Craft, DT, KS1 sports / Girls football, Gymnastics, Board games and reading.

Classes have been asked to discuss the following in readiness for the next meeting *which will be held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 1.45pm.*

- What would you like from your school council?
- Would you like the new elected deputy to become the main counsellor for September then re-elect a new deputy?
- What charities would you like to support? E.g. Children in Need Day
- What theme days would you like the school to celebrate? E.G Anti Bullying Week. These suggestions will be starting from September.

## Is my child too ill for school?

The attached NHS link is a really useful resource for parents/carers if they are unsure whether to send their child to school or not. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



UK Health  
Security  
Agency



# Should I keep my child off school?

## Yes

### Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

## No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



### Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

## Sports/PE update

A team of Year 5 children represented school at the Grantham Gymnastics Competition at the weekend. They all performed a floor routine and a pommel horse activity. They did incredibly well, with Alfie winning the U11 Boys Individual Event!! A huge well done, we are very proud of you!!



We took a team of 19 children across KS2 to the Grantham Swim Gala Competition on Friday 7th March. A mixture of straight stroke races- front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke and relay races they performed superbly. They supported each other throughout, cheering one another and providing water, towels and moral support all afternoon. We placed 3rd overall and 2nd in the Relay events. A huge well done to everyone!!



Last Thursday we took a team of year 6 children to compete in the Grantham Netball Tournament at Priory Ruskin Academy. We played in a league to begin with, playing 3 schools. We won 2 games and lost 1. This resulted in us coming 2nd in our group. We then played a final game against another school who finished 2nd in their league, with the final score being 1-1. We await the full results to find out where we were placed! A huge well done to all the children who competed, they worked solidly as a team and supported each other throughout! Well done everyone!!

## Meet the staff

Mr Doughty took part in the Sherwood Pines Half Marathon last Sunday. A very tricky course, on bike tracks and with plenty of hills he showed real determination to complete the course. The first half marathon (13.1 miles) distance Mr Doughty has completed, he crossed the line in under 2 hours, a fantastic achievement! Well done Mr Doughty you are a fantastic role model to all the children at Isaac Newton, the PE team are really proud of you!! Up the Apples!!



## Celebration Assembly

Every Friday afternoon, we spend time celebrating all the successes from the week and present children with a Headteacher's Award. Staff choose one pupil from each class for a reason connected with our values (Respect, Pride, Responsibility, Kindness and Resilience and for following our simple, but effective, school rules (Be Ready; Be Respectful and Be Safe). All children are encouraged to listen carefully to the reasons for the award and they receive a certificate, a sticker and a round of applause from the whole school. We also celebrate those children who have produced exceptional work in school, at home and their out of school achievements. It is always a special occasion and enjoyed by all!



Winners from the recent Friday Celebration Assembly from 14.03.2025 and 21.03.2025 with their stickers and certificates. Congratulations to them all!

## OUR SCHOOL VALUES



### School Values

Again this term we will focus on our school value of **Respect**. Being respectful and responsible for their actions will not only ensure that children are successful in school, but will also serve them well as adults in the workplace. We will also be focusing on our **Kindness** value.

### Dates For Your Diary:

25th March	Year 5 Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
27th March	Year 6 Hockey Tournament
31st March	Rocksteady Performance 9:10 am
2nd April	Parents' Evening (4pm - 7pm)
3rd April	Tag Rugby Tournament
3rd April	Parents' Evening (4pm - 6pm)
4th April	End of Term 4
21st April	Bank Holiday (School closed to all pupils and staff)
22nd April	Start of Term 5
22nd April	EYFS Trip to Woodside Wildlife Park
22nd May	KS1 Disco 4:30pm - 5:30pm KS2 Disco 6:00pm - 7:00pm
17th July	Year 6 Leavers Disco (all of KS2 invited, Year 6 attend for free)
21st July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 2:00pm - 3:00pm

**Week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SATs Tests (Please do not book holidays during this time!)**

## Isaac Newton Book Day

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, Isaac Newton held their own version of World Book Day. There were a host of exciting reading activities on the day including... Below we are thrilled to announce the winners of the Paper Plate Competition. Each winner received a prize (which was of course a high-quality book) for their efforts!

Many thanks to Mrs Gaze for organising the day.

Amber Jackson – Class 9  
Mr Twit

Special 'Thank You' to Miss Meads for helping me to choose the winner for LKS2.



Ava Bamsey – Class 3  
The Dinosaur that Pooped  
Special 'Thank You' to Miss Jones and Miss Winston for selecting the EYFS/KS1 winner.



Rayana Roy Bhaumik – Class 14  
How to Train Your Dragon  
Rayana even used origami to make the dragon on her paper plate!

## Work to be proud of



Olivia has done brilliant listening, amazing reading and has tried so hard with her writing! She also did really good listening for mummy at home. Well done.



Great work from Mia in Class 4 who has made these brilliant smiley faces (in the shape of a pancake) and this train which is made out of paper!



Amazing handwriting from Piota who has worked really hard this week!



Well done to Class 8 who were making short movies using iMotion which is a stop motion animation app. The results were very original and quite spectacular!

## Work to be proud of



Brilliant geography work from Riley who has been working on Tectonic plates. Really well-presented work too!



Phenomenal writing from Year 6 this morning. Descriptions, use of personification, repetition and well-chosen language. A perfect description of the weather...

Well done to Layla, Skylar, Jennifer and Braydon.



Brilliant English work from CJ linked with the Mayans. Well done!



### Music in Class 7

Well done to Class 7 for their amazing recorder music skills today. They learnt how to play the Dragon Song really quickly and were keen to show it off to Mr Milner, it was so impressive!



Fantastic writing and spelling from Mia in phonics today. Well done!



Well done to Alicia who has completed this amazing work on the Great Fire of London where she can clearly describe the main events that took place!



Great maths work today on calculating perimeter with some information missing. Well done to Daryll, Filip, Braydon and Leyton.

## Work to be proud of



Amazing French work from Ivan. Year 5 have been learning about pets names and their ages. Well done, fantastic work  
Ivan



Ayla from Class 11, has done some exciting work with her dad (who is a Firefighter) on some essential aspects of First Aid. She has included clear diagrams with detailed instructions. Really important and interesting homework. Well done!



Amazing work from Lillah from class 7. She got 25 out of 25 again on TT Rockstars. This is the sixth time she has done this and she told me that she practices at home!

## Work to be proud of from home



Fantastic sketches and drawings from Maya and CJ. Well done both of you!



Well done to Amelia who had created a poster thanking Paramedics (and encouraging people to take this job up. Amelia has said she would like to be a paramedic so she can be a superhero. She says she already knows how to do CPR. Well done!)

## Out of school achievements



Great work from Mila who has achieved her Water Safety badge and certificate. To get this she had to swim under water. Well done!



Congratulations James for achieving Learn to Swim 4 and Water Safety and Well done to Julia for gaining an Achievement Award for swimming 2500m. Amazing work!



In this newsletter, we are highlighting what parents/cares need to know about how to use technology to boost reading skills, Roblox and Streamers.

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# ROBLOX



Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

### MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

### IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

### ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

### RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

### SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

### PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

### TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

## Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGible.



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMERS

Livestreaming has become a big part of the entertainment people consume, and what began as a series of gamers sharing their screens has grown into a huge industry packed with personalities – and potential risks for your children. With over 2.5 million people watching Twitch, the most popular streaming service, at any one time, it's important to remain aware of the risks associated with streamers.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



Some gaming streamers will stick to family-friendly titles, but others will play more violent games that tend to be more popular. Non-gaming streamers could, in theory, discuss just about anything, and some streamers will often stream in revealing outfits.

### NEGATIVE INFLUENCES



While things have improved, streamers are often paid by companies to promote products, and this isn't always stated explicitly. While it's unlikely these goods will be harmful to your child, some streamers and influencers have engaged (knowingly or not) in scams in the past.

### FINANCIAL HARM

Streamers will often have donation buttons on their screens for users to submit money. What can start as small amounts can quickly spiral as streamers engage with paying viewers more often, potentially leading to financial issues.

### UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS



Influencers often showcase how glamorous their lives are, making some users feel as though they are lesser. However, it's important to stress that, in many ways, this is an act, or at the very least, not common. Logan Paul, who has been successful as a streamer and influencer, has a Pokemon card worth \$5 million, but this is atypical of anyone working in the medium.

### MISINFORMATION



Streamers are, in many ways, just like us – and they can get things wrong or reel off an opinion without having thought about it. Some can simply say awful things to get a rise out of viewers or to sway them to their side of a hot topic.

### ADDICTION AND SCREEN TIME

If your child is watching a lot of a particular streamer, it can be just as damaging to their social life as playing too many video games.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### EXPLAIN HOW STREAMING WORKS



For a younger viewer, being a streamer or influencer seems aspirational, but it involves a lot of work and no small degree of good fortune. Streamers are often managed and unable to speak freely due to sponsors, and influencers are just that – influencing young minds, for better or for worse.

### CHECK OUT STREAMING PLATFORMS



While Twitch was the de facto streaming service for years, YouTube has gained popularity, too. Then there are Kick and Rumble, which have grown in popularity with moves for big-name streamers – despite many being dogged by controversy.

### DO NOT LOG PAYMENT INFORMATION



Streamers can reward donations with additional content, on-camera "shout outs" and more. If you're unsure about who or what your child is watching, consider avoiding linking payment information. This is especially notable with Twitch, which is owned by Amazon and therefore has some crossover.

### SET SCREEN TIME LIMITS



You can set screentime limits for mobile apps on iOS and Google, but with other platforms like a PC it may be more difficult to keep tabs. Consider checking in regularly to ensure your children aren't watching content they shouldn't be.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of the Daily Star, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



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Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/streamers>

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# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

## 1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

## 2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

## 3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

## 4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

## 5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

## 6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

## 7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

## 9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

## 8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

## 10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13–16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

## Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowrie is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, Neuroteachers, which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



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