

Dear Parents/Carers

What a wonderful fortnight it has been since the last Newsletter was published and it brings us to the end of the Spring term. Hopefully, losing the hour at the weekend has not affected the children too much. This brings us lighter evenings in the countdown to the summer. Please remember that as we get into the summer term, it will be really important to apply suncream on your children in the morning, send them with sun hats and ensure that they have bottles of water. We will take shade breaks, when it gets really hot and will always put the safety of the children first. This may mean being outside for short periods of time or in extreme heat, having indoor playtimes.



As usual, we have the usual range of high-quality work produced by the children in class and from home. There have also been trips out of school, where the children were excellent role models. This is something that we have come to expect from our pupils, and they did not disappoint! We have some of our usual reminders about attendance, a safeguarding update and other events that have taken place in school over the last fortnight.

Year 6

Another reminder that during week commencing 12th May, Year 6 will be taking their SATs tests so please do not 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 with information or send their hard work into school, and we will celebrate this in our next Newsletter which will be published on Friday 2nd May, on social media and during our Celebration Assemblies!

Staffing update

Mrs Eldred will be retiring at the end of this term. Whilst we are extremely happy that she will be able to spend more time with her husband Richard (starting with a holiday during term-time) and her wider family, we will be incredibly sad to see her go. She has worked at Isaac Newton for over 14 years as our Senior Administrator and has been an integral part of the team throughout this time. We will miss her cheery personality, professionalism and her dedicated attitude to doing what's best for our fantastic children. Thank you for all of your hard work and enjoy your well-deserved retirement. We are hoping that she will come back to see us in the future!



We are pleased to formally announce that Mrs Boyer has taken over from Mrs Eldred and will be our new Senior Administrator. Mrs Boyer has been working closely with Mrs Eldred over the last few weeks (you may have seen her in the office). This is to ensure a smooth transition in this crucial role for the school.

Mrs Locke will be leaving Isaac Newton as she has been promoted to join CIT's Central Safeguarding Team. Whilst we will be sad to see her go, this is a marvellous opportunity for her and the good news is that we will definitely see her in the future. Mrs Locke has been a phenomenal member of staff at Isaac Newton for the last four years. She works tirelessly to keep children safe and has built strong relationships with families offering help and advice. Thank you for everything you have done for the children as Isaac Newton and the wider community. We know you will be fantastic in your new role and want to wish you all the best for the future. We are pleased to announce that Miss Cook will be replacing Mrs Locke. She will start work at Isaac Newton from the start of the summer term. To ensure there is a smooth transition, Mrs Locke will be working alongside Miss Cook in the summer term. This is another crucial role for the school and we need to limit any potential disruptions.



Yellow Day



Isaac Newton held a 'Yellow Day' last week, raising funds for Marie Curie who are represented by a daffodil. This is a charity which is close to the heart of Mrs Eldred and as usual, staff dressed in yellow, including yellow socks and daffodils, for the day. They brought in a selection of cakes and goodies for a donation and had a wonderful raffle of 'Yellow' gifts. The school raised £156.00 in total, and enjoyed a lovely sunny, smiley day which was enjoyed by all!

Mr Milner
Headteacher.

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

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

Attendance by Class for the last two weeks.

How many classes are above 96%

| | | | |
|---------|-------|----------|-------|
| Class 1 | 96.4% | Class 8 | 97.4% |
| Class 2 | 93% | Class 9 | 91.3% |
| Class 3 | 84.5% | Class 10 | 98.7% |
| Class 4 | 89.5% | Class 11 | 97.2% |
| Class 5 | 92.5% | Class 12 | 97.4% |
| Class 6 | 91.2% | Class 13 | 91.4% |
| Class 7 | 97.7% | Class 14 | 95.6% |

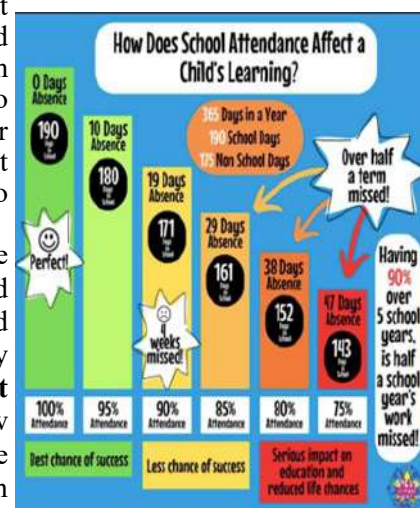
Congratulations to classes 1, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12 for having attendance above 96%.

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 school days) or more in a ten week period, will also result in a fine from the local authority.



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 |



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

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

Sport

Last Thursday, Laura and Mr Doughty took 2 teams to the Grantham Schools Hockey tournament. Both teams took part in separate leagues competing against different schools in Grantham. Mr Doughty's team ended up winning both their league games to finish the league in 1st position. Laura's team drew both their games in close fought games and ended up coming 2nd in their league. Mr Doughty's team were into the semifinals where unfortunately they lost the semi-final resulting in 3rd place overall and Laura's team finishing 5th. Both teams showed fantastic perseverance and an amazing attitude all afternoon. UP THE APPLES!!



This week we took a team of Year 5/6 children to the Tag Rugby Tournament at Kesteven Rugby Club. They played a league of games and finished in 5th place. A huge well done to everyone who took part, you worked incredibly hard, played to the rules of the game and were a credit to Isaac Newton!!



Meet the staff

Mrs Gray, who is Assistant Head and Year 1 teacher, is pictured here with her husband. They both do Karate every week, in their spare time. Mrs Gray is taking part in a Karate Competition over the weekend. We wish her the very best of luck and can't wait to find out how she gets on.



Easter Bonnet Competition

On Mrs Eldred's last day in school before her well-deserved retirement she helped Mr Milner choose the winners from the Easter Bonnet Competition. This was an incredibly difficult job and it took a long time to decide. Huge thanks to all the children who entered the competition. The winners (mostly, pictured above) were as follows:



Aron, Finley, Mia, Ali, Nela, Antec, Esme, Oliver, Jensen, Emilia, Charlotte, Leighlen, Nicole and Kendra. They each received an Easter Egg for their efforts. Congratulations to all of them!

Year 5 trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park

On Tuesday 25th March, Year 5 went on an exciting trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park. They saw a range of animals over the course of the day and had a thoroughly enjoyable experience, they learnt all about their natural habitats and how animals have adapted to their environment. The children behaved impeccably throughout the day, as we knew they would!



School Council



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

Mr Milner began the meeting by welcoming everyone to this week's meeting. We decided that the recently elected Deputy School Council members would become the School Council Representatives from September. We also decided that we would look to change the day and time of meetings so that everyone can attend, each week. This will ensure that all classes are represented in the meetings. We also discussed which charities we would like to support next academic year. School Council would like to support Children in Need and charities that are linked with foodbanks, care homes and supporting people who are blind and/or partially sighted. Finally, although Isaac Newton is an amazing place to be, we discussed how we could make it even better. The School Council this would be achieved through a wider range of after school clubs and better curriculum resources. Toby from Class 9

Rocksteady Performance

On Monday 31st March, all of Key Stage 2 and a select group of parents were treated to a musical extravaganza when 13 pupils from across the school put on a spectacular concert. They have been practicing hard for several weeks with their Rocksteady band leader, and self-confessed 'Jack Black rock n roller', Aaron! Aaron shared how nervous the children had been in the run up to the concert and how proud he was with not only how well the concert went, how much they had improved but also the confidence they showed to perform in

front of nearly 300 children and adults. The bands Rocket. The Slaid Sausages and Rock n' Roll Buddies performed We will Rock you by Queen, Love Story by Taylor Swift and Sk8er Boy by Arvil Lavigne. It was a phenomenal morning and was enjoyed by everyone! Thank you to the parents and family members for attending, to Aaron (and Ian who will be taking over as tutor after Easter) but above all to our fantastic children who once again showcased their talents! We can't wait for the next concert at the end of the summer term.



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 28.03.2025 and the Achievement Awards on 04.04.2025 with their stickers, trophy 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:

| | |
|------------|---|
| 4th April | End of Term 4 |
| | Bank Holiday |
| 21st April | (School closed to all pupils and staff) |
| 22nd April | Start of Term 5 |
| 22nd April | EYFS Trip to Woodside Wildlife Park |
| 24th April | Swimming starts for Class 10 |
| 24th April | Bikeability for Year 5 starts (select pupils from Class 12) |
| 1st May | Year 1 Trip to White Post Farm |
| 1st May | Year 3/4 Cross Country |
| 2nd May | Year 3 Partake Roman Workshop |
| 7th May | Year 2 Trip to Nene Valley |
| 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 12th May – Year 6 SATs Tests (Please do not book holidays during this time!)

Work to be proud of



Phenomenal improvement with Ellexa-Rose's handwriting in English this week. A fabulous diary entry all about Pompei and the eruption of Mount Vesuvius.



Well done to Sienna and Mia D for their amazing Mother's Day Cards. They had put lots of detail on and their handwriting inside was spectacular!



Great maths work from Skye who got 25 out of 25 for the first time. Year 4 are absolutely flying with their arithmetic. Well done and keep up the good work!



Year 6 (Class 13) have been working hard producing a diary entry connected with Scuba Diving. Fantastic work from Benas, Sebastian and Filip. Below are some quotes from the boy's work.

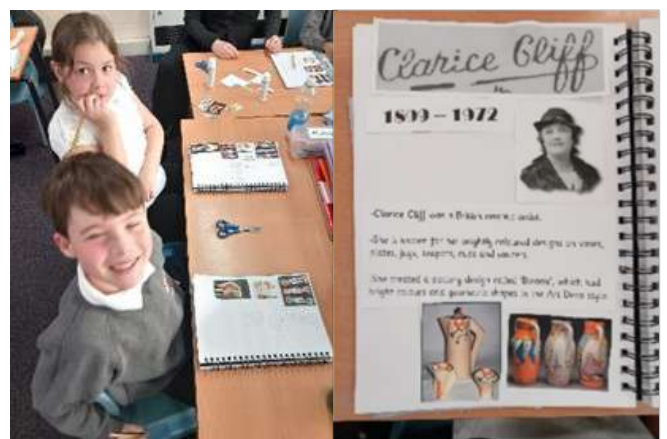
Today was the most extraordinary day of my life! You won't believe what happened! Firstly, I gobbled down my delicious breakfast. Next, I drove to the Great Barrier Reef and was amazed by the glistening, glass-like water! The weather was beautiful and blooming everyday. The white clouds were shimmering across the deep, blue skies!



Olivia has been working really hard in English this week and has asked a range of questions to demarcate a sentence connected with the Great Fire of London! Well done!



Wonderful handwriting from Paulina and Alicia. Accurate punctuation too!



Amazing artwork from Class 8 this week - inspired by the British artist Clarice Cliff! Well done all of you!

Work to be proud of



Class 14 have made these fish with 5 different stitches. They swim gracefully in the azure Indian Ocean.

Work to be proud of from home



Well done to Maja who had drawn this decorative illustration of Axolotl. Well



Such great attention to detail on this volcano which was completed at home by Maddison. Well done!



A range of interesting things made at home by children in Year 2 Peter, Lily, Martim and Rebecca created a shield, a dragons egg and two castles. Well done!

Safeguarding update

In this newsletter, we are highlighting what parents/cares need to know about Instagram including all the different ways that children are using this app and what the risks are. The Beacon leaflet is around supporting families and children affected

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens – with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

follow

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

RISKS OF GOING LIVE

The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION

Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland 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 comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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yt @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.04.2025

About Beacon

We are a friendly and experienced team, dedicated to supporting adults, young people and children over the age of five who have been affected by substance use.

We work with individuals and families, providing information and advice tailored to their personal circumstances and goals.

Our aim is to equip you with the knowledge, tools and emotional resilience needed to navigate the impact of substance use and focus on your wellbeing.



The service has helped me understand and feel safer. I realise people are there for me.

A young service user, aged 9



Our friends and family service

We offer support and information for families, friends and others who are affected by a person's use of alcohol or drugs.

We recognise the wider impact that the use of substances can have on family and friends, and our team are here to listen to how it's affecting you in a safe, confidential environment.

The service is free and entirely non-judgemental, and you're in control of the level and type of support that you'd like us to provide.

Get in touch

We have six welcoming hubs across Lincolnshire, or can be contacted by telephone or email.

Hubs

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| Lincoln | Spalding |
| Grantham | Gainsborough |
| Boston | Skegness |

Contact us

→ www.lincsbeacon.co.uk

→ 0800 304 7021

→ lincs.info@lincsbeacon.co.uk



A safe place for anyone affected by somebody else's use of drugs or alcohol

What we offer

We can give advice and guidance around any effects you may be experiencing including stress, anxiety, isolation and the impact to your mental or physical health, relationships and finances. This can be through:

- **One-to-one sessions**
Talk through how you're feeling and put steps in place to manage the impact, both as an individual or as a family
- **Support groups or activities**
Meet with others in person or online who share similar experiences to build a network of peer support
- **Bespoke support**
Referrals to other support organisations and if applicable, arranging meetings with treatment providers, the person in treatment and yourself

Making a referral

We accept self-referrals and also referrals from family members, concerned others or professionals. You can make a referral on our website, by email or telephone.

→ www.lincsbeacon.co.uk

→ 0800 304 7021

→ lincs.info@lincsbeacon.co.uk

Where to access our support

Our service is flexible and we will meet you where you feel most comfortable. This could be at one of our offices, a community venue, home or school, online or over the phone. We can offer convenient appointment times to fit in with your schedule.