



Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Issue 1 September 2017

Welcome back to all our parents and children who have already been working in partnership with us.

Welcome to all our new families. We look forward to working with you in the near future.

Welcome to Mr O'Brien a new teacher in Year Two, Miss Bisgrove who is teaching in Year One and also Mrs Lickerish who is teaching part time in Year One. We are also welcoming back one of our fantastic deputies Miss Chapman, who returns after her maternity leave. She will be working closely with Mrs Wright before her maternity leaves starts.

Meet the Team Leaders

Nursery – Mrs Luke

Reception – Mrs Hurley

Year One – Mrs Mason

Year Two – Miss Lees

If you have any queries regarding your child's education please talk to their class teacher. The team leaders are there should you need any further support. They are waiting to talk to you!

Family Worker news

We are very fortunate to have two excellent Family Workers at our school, who can help and support with many general family issues such as behaviour, child sleep issues, housing, and attendance to name but a few.

If you have a concern or issues you would like to discuss you can either phone through to the main school 01933 654900 or to their work mobiles. Mrs Lesley Colquhoun (who also works at the Junior School) 07825666124 and Mrs Tracy Harvey 07584050433

Class assembly

Thursday 12th October—Mrs Mason's class assembly for Harvest. Parents/ carers are welcome to come and watch at 9am in the main hall. The children will share some of the things they have been learning in class.

Christmas concerts in December

11th 2pm Year 2

12th 9.30am Year 2

13th 2pm Year 1

14th 9.30am Year 1

15th 9.30am Reception

18th 2pm Reception

Parent workshops and events

20th September 9am- Reception phonic workshop and parent class visit to see the teachers working with your children. (5.30pm session also available)

26th September 9am Year one maths and English workshop. There will be an opportunity to visit a Phonics lesson with your child.

3rd October 9am- Year 2 maths and English workshop. There will be an opportunity to visit a short phonics and grammar lesson in your child's class. There will be a Key stage one meeting on 3rd October for parents who were unable to attend either the Year one or Year two workshops in the morning. This will be at 5.30pm but there will not be the opportunity to see your children in class!

5th October Reception maths workshop at 9am. Again parents will have the opportunity to visit classes to see the learning in action.

12th October 9am -Nursery with have a Phonics/Kinetic letters workshop with a stay and play session



Uniform

Please ensure that your child has the correct uniform for school. The children need a school sweatshirt or cardigan, grey trousers or shorts, skirt or pinafore, or green checked summer dress. They also need a white polo t-shirt and plain black school shoes. The children also require a jade school t-shirt for PE and black shorts. The children will be doing regular outdoor PE in Year One and Two and will require plain joggers and plimsolls/ trainers. If any parent is struggling with the cost of uniform, please phone to speak to the school office as we may be able to support. If your child is eligible for pupil premium you can use your school voucher to help with the cost of school sweatshirts, cardigans and PE t-shirts.



Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School Pupil Premium

We are offering parents entitled to Pupil Premium **a voucher for £100 in main school and £50 in Nursery**. This voucher can be used towards, trips, milk, uniform, school photos and clubs.

All infant aged children now can receive a free school meal if booked through our catering company Kingswood. However if you or your partner receives any of the following benefits, your child could be offered even further support in school if you are eligible for **Pupil**

Premium:

- Income support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit
- National asylum seekers support
- Guarantee element of state pension credit
- Employment and Support Allowance

This is funding which is given to schools and nurseries, to support your child. However, you still must apply individually through the County Council. Even if you decided not to have the free school meal (which all Infant aged children are entitled) you can still gain additional support for your child with the cost of trips, milk, clubs, a new sweatshirt for your child when you need it during the year and small group support or 1:1 tuition if needed for your child. This can support your child's individual needs.

How to register

It can be confusing to apply as it is still called a **Free School Meal Application** but your child will receive the other benefits too, if you are eligible. You can apply on line through the county website www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals and select apply for **Pupil Premium** (Highlighted in purple).

If you have any questions about the information included in this letter please do not hesitate to ask at the school office. All enquires can be made in a confidential manner.

This is important funding which can have huge long-term benefits to your child and their education.

Attendance

Please ensure that your child attends school every day. All children may be poorly from time to time but please ensure that you phone the school office on 01933 654900. You can use the dedicated absence line or talk to a member of staff during school time. Do try and phone before 9.30am so we know not to expect your child. The government send clear guidance to schools on attendance as it is a legal duty for parents to ensure their children attend school. Holidays in term time cannot be authorised and only genuine illness and absences in exceptional circumstances will be authorised. The local authority can deliver a fixed penalty fine for families who take their children out of school for unauthorised absences. It is important that parents understand that the initial fixed penalty notice of £60 is issued to **each parent for each child**. A two-parent family with two children would be fined £240. Unauthorised absences can be holidays in term time or when a school is not satisfied that a child has a valid reason to be off school, such as a birthday shopping treat or trip to the hairdressers. We ask that all parents inform the school of any absences as it is important that we know that the child is not missing from education. We have a duty to report all children missing from education to the local authority.



Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Clubs

We have our first round of clubs starting soon. Please ensure that you sign up start away. We have some new clubs this year including our new nature club, a signing club and archery.

We also have **ocarina club**, which is being run by Mrs Lickerish, one of our new year one teachers, who is a music specialist and a musician herself. The cost of this club includes the Ocarina and the music book to get your child well on the road to confidently playing their first instrument.

We have a free **signing club** which will teach children some fun songs and words to sign. This will support communication with our hearing impaired children but also is a great general skill for your child to have.

Steve Patrick is running an **archery club** for the first time, in which children will learn to aim and control a bow and arrow in a safe environment.

If your child is eligible for **Pupil Premium** you can use your voucher to pay for any of the clubs. Please talk to the office about this as your child has the opportunity to try something new!

Curriculum

Some of our Nursery children have just started exploring their new environment and we have been excited to welcome back some children too.

Reception are exploring "Me and My Magical World". The children will be talking about their world and the local environment and will be going out on local walks.

Year One will be learning all about the history and geography of London in their "London's Calling" theme. They will look specifically at the Great Fire of London and the Gunpowder plot.

Year Two have already started learning about space "To Infinity and Beyond". They will be having a planetarium to visit to see the galaxy up close. They will also be finding out about famous astronauts, Tim Peake, Neil Armstrong and Yuri Gagarin.

Please look out for your Year group curriculum guide to tell you more information about what your child will be learning and ways you can support at home.

We are all looking forward to lots of active learning this term.

Keep Tuesday **14th November** free for the Year Two family star gazing night!



How can you help?

We really want parents to work in partnership with us to promote and develop all of your child's skills. You can help in lots of different ways.

Our **Parent Teacher Association** meeting is on **5th October at 6.30pm at school**. We are dedicated group of parents. Teachers and TAs who just want to support the school by raising money for further equipment and experiences. The PTA have done an amazing job of funding tablet technology in school. All Year groups now have tablets to use in their areas. We are looking this year to develop our library area and our shared field with the Junior School. We want to improve the experiences for all of our children.

We love to see some more parent/grandparent helpers in school. We are particularly keen to hear from Dads /grandads who enjoy reading, to promote a male reading role model for the children. We are particularly keen to have as lots of parent helper readers to develop the children's skills.

Please come and join in the parent sessions we organise. We make the workshops relevant to your child's learning. Please see the dates for all the parent workshops. They are great fun and we often add a teaching and learning session so you can join the class with your child and see how they learn.

Ensure that you read with your child as often as possible as this key skill will support all other learning. Please can you check book bags as we have noted recently that some children have a number of large key rings on their book bags. Please can you limit your child to one small key ring as these have been getting stuck in drawers and interrupting learning.

