



Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School



Issue 7 December 2017

School Closure

I would like to apologise for any difficulties caused with our closure on Monday. The decision to close the school is never taken lightly but we felt that it was best for the safety of all our young children to clear the site. Thank you to the local staff and parents who supported Mr Wynn in clearing the site.

Please drive carefully around our town as some of the roads are still very icy.

Donations at the Christmas Concerts

Please could we have **cake donations** for the Christmas concerts this week.

Please remember to bring your **tickets** for the children's **Christmas concerts**. We will be selling teas, coffee and cakes after the concerts and collecting for our outside library project. We are looking to get more books in the outside areas to encourage reading at playtimes.

Please try to make arrangements for **younger children**, as we want our school children to shine during the concerts and younger children can easily distract.

PTA fund raising

We are raising money for our library both inside and out! I would like to buy and convert a small **caravan** (I was thinking of the old 1960s ones!) into an outside library so children can access books at playtimes as well as outdoor lesson times. Anyone who can help with this project please call on 01933 654900. If you shop at **Waitrose** please remember to ask for the **green tokens** and add them to the INIS box! We can have a share of £1000 to help towards our library project

Christmas dress code!

Let's make the most of our Christmas jumpers, T-shirts and dresses.

Friday 15th - Official Christmas Jumper day! **All donations to Save the Children.**

Monday 18th - Christmas Jumpers, mufti and Christmas accessories.

Tuesday 19th - Party clothes!

Wednesday 20th - Christmas Jumpers and accessories! **Donations for PTA library project.**



All clubs finish this Friday except for choir which will have an additional practice on Monday 18th December.

Advanced Notice

Tuesday 9th January 2.30pm/6pm. Year Two – end of Key stage one (SATs) workshop. Important information will be shared at this meeting.

15th January -9am Year 2 maths in action Come and see calculations policy in the classroom (no workshop session).

23rd January 9am Year 1 Kinetic letters Come and see how we teach handwriting then short talk and question session with Mrs Mason.

25th January 10.30am and 2pm Nursery maths talk and a stay and play session to see some of the maths resources we use in Nursery.

30th January 9am Reception - Move and Groove session (with kinetic letters language). See how we encourage physical development and handwriting skills in Reception classrooms.

Healthy week beginning 29th January including developing wellbeing. Wellbeing day 2nd February.

Science week beginning 12th March 2018

19th April 9am and 5.45pm Year1 phonics workshop regarding the phonics screening which year one children take. There will be a demonstration session, including the use of talk partners, in the morning session.



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If you have a child turning 4 before the 31st August 2018 and you would like to arrange a visit to our school please phone the office 01933 654900.

Christmas Technology for Children

Have you finished your Christmas shopping yet? Planning to spend a couple of hours in a Christmas Market or even on Amazon? This Christmas there will be more tech toys than ever before, and many of them will use bluetooth or wifi to link to apps and the wider internet. Some of these toys will have cameras and microphones recording the environment and the child's play. The Information Commissioner recently published an article looking at the risks of using smart toys please find the information in this link.

<https://iconewsblog.org.uk/2017/11/23/the-12-ways-that-christmas-shoppers-can-keep-children-and-data-safe-when-buying-smart-toys-and-devices/>

Which? Magazine have also surveyed many connected toys and found that, without appropriate safety features, they can also pose a big risk to your child's safety. Please see the link below.

<https://www.which.co.uk/news/2017/11/safety-alert-see-how-easy-it-is-for-almost-anyone-to-hack-your-childs-connected-toys/>



Thank you to parents and staff who have embraced our pedestrian zone carpark between 3.10pm and 3.30pm. We realise that this could cause some difficulties for individuals but we are pleased across the site how people have supported us. We welcome your feedback on how this is working for parents and children. Please email Mrs Welch on helen.welch@iflt.org.uk with your views.

We are having a focus on healthy living in the week beginning 29th January, if you are a cook or chef and feel like you could come and cook with our children and talk about your experiences please contact the school either on Mrs Welch's email above or by phoning the school on 01933 654900.



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Important Staffing Changes

We are saying "Goodbye" to Mrs Burdett, our Inclusion Lead, who has been working with us part time this term. She has successfully gained a promoted post in a Secondary School, heading up a large special needs team. We wish her well.

We have now successfully recruited, on a temporary basis, Mrs Sullivan, who is a very experienced Inclusion Lead and has worked as part of a large primary school on the senior leadership team. She has already been working in school on a Tuesday morning, as part of a hand over with Mrs Burdett. She is looking forward to meeting parents after the Christmas holidays, however if parents would like to meet her before this she is available at 10am on Tuesday 19th, please come to the main reception desk. Mrs Sullivan will be working on Tuesdays and Wednesdays after the holidays.

We have recently recruited two new Teaching Assistants to work in **Reception**. Due to these changes in staffing we will be restructuring our Teaching Assistant Reception Team.

Mrs Morris will continue to work and support all classes and use her vast skills as an Early Years Practitioner to particularly develop speech and language skills.

Miss Scott will work mainly with Mrs Hurley's class and you will see her on the door for Monkey class.

Mrs Davis will be on the door with Miss Garrett's children, in Sloth Class.

Mrs Thomas, one of our new TAs, will work with Mrs Chapman and Mrs Matthews in Tiger Class.

Mrs Parker and Mrs Jones (new TA), will work with Mrs Bailey.

Mrs Powell, will move to Nursery to help support with our Spring intake children.

The TAs have all started getting to know their new classes for when the changes happen in January, after the Christmas holidays.

Many of you know the exciting news that Miss O'Callaghan will be leaving us to have a baby in February. We are very lucky to have filled this post with two experienced teachers. Mrs Howe, will work Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Askew will work the rest of the week. There will be no changes with the teaching assistants so Mrs Wells and Mrs Stephens will stay with the class. We will arrange a date for you to meet both teachers early in the spring term and we will be arranging visits from the teachers to meet the children to ensure there is excellent handover with Miss O'Callaghan.

Remember clubs close for the holidays this week. Choir will have an additional practise on Monday 18th.

Parents will be informed of new clubs by text this week. Please do not pay until you have had your text.

Pupil Premium vouchers can be used for clubs. There is still time to claim your £100 in school vouchers.