



Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School



Issue 13 March 2018

Snow

I hope that everyone was able to stay safe and warm in our recent spell of freezing temperatures. I apologise for any inconvenience caused with the school being closed on Friday but with the freezing conditions and continuing poor forecast Mr Garley (Head of IJS), Mr Gordan (Head of Huxlow) and myself felt that this was the safest option for our school community. I hope that you all got a little time to have fun in the snow too! I have loved looking at your snow pictures on Twitter. If you are not following our Year Group Twitter pages, please look us up @INIS. Teachers post information and pictures from lessons to keep you up to date on what children are learning. There are also sometimes things to help with homework too!

Dates for Class assemblies

6th March- Mrs Grocock and Mrs Lickerish's Class assembly (Lion Class)

15th March- Mr O'Brien's Class (Giraffe Class)

10th May- Miss Bisgrove's Class assembly (Koala Class)

17th May- Mrs Hurley's Class assembly (Monkey Class)

13th June -Mrs Chapman and Mrs Matthew's Class assembly (Tiger Class)

14th June – Mrs Bailey's Class assembly (Dolphin Class)

21st June- Miss Garrett's Class assembly (Sloth Class)

All class assemblies start at 9.05am and all family members are welcome. Please enter via the hall door. Quiet younger siblings welcome too!

19th July 9.15am Year two leavers' assembly – Only parents/carers welcome to attend this last assembly as space is very limited.

Please visit our **book fair- It is here until Tuesday morning!**

Other dates

6th March - Nursery Kinetic letters and stay and play sessions 9am and 12.30pm

Friday 9th March- Irthlingborough book day. Dress as any book character and be ready to share your character's story! (No donations required) **Date changed due to snow day.**

Week beginning 12th March - Science week

16th March - Homework into school

23rd March - Sports Relief Day- The Great Irthlingborough Dance off!

26th March- Northants County Cricket "Take over Day" More details to follow.

27th/28th March - Parent Consultations (Learning reviews with parents and children).

29th March - Reception are hosting a coffee and cake morning on the last day of term.

18th June 6pm- Choir at Huxlow event

19th June - Sports morning for year two and sports afternoon for year one.

We would like to thank **T&D property services** who donated an amazing mud kitchen for our Reception outdoor area. It is fantastic, the children love using it very creatively. It is very sturdy and should last us for years so another massive thank you for this brilliant donation.

If you would like to see what they sell, please check out their website.

[TandD property services toys](http://TandDpropertyservices.com) or email them on info@tdpropertyservices.com to find out more.



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Reading Caravan Update

We hope that you have had some time to think about our reading caravan as part of the homework. We have asked children to write their design ideas and share them in school, so we can get some quotes to have the inside of the caravan converted. Mr Wynn has stripped the inside and we have lots of work to do now!



Look at our progress so far. Once the designs are in we will work with the School and Class councils to make the final decisions about what we want the inside to look like. If only we knew George Clark! As we have a great space we would love him to help us create!!

We have the electrics going in over the Easter holidays and we will have lights fitted inside!

We are looking to further raise the profile of the enjoyment of reading and have launched our Sponsored read in Key Stage One (Years 1 & 2). Nursery and Reception will have a sponsored read in the Summer term.

So please ask friends and family to sponsor your child on their reading challenge. The children need to read 12 books in 2 weeks and record them on the sheet provided last week. We will be using everything we raise for the caravan and books for both our outside and inside library. Ultimately, we want to redesign the whole of our inside library but when looking at initial quotes this was too expensive to consider at this point.



We are also starting a **Reading Dog** award next week. One child from each class, who has been spotted reading well or putting a lot of effort into their reading will be chosen to choose a reading dog and a book from our school library to take home for the weekend. The child can share the book with their Reading Dog pal!

Monty our school Reading Dog

We are training our own Reading Dog in school! **Monty** has had his 1st round of puppy training and we are looking to have an assessment specific for reading dogs for him. He is Miss Garrett's dog and he will be coming in every other Thursday afternoon with Miss Garrett's mum. We are very excited as training is going well and Monty and the children have enjoyed the preliminary visits!

What does a reading dog do?

A reading dog comes into school and will sit and listen to the children read. There will always be a handler with Monty our reading dog. He has a very caring nature and settles well to listen to the children. Research has shown that reluctant readers and children who are less confident respond well to reading with a dog. It is also a calming and relaxing way to share books for all children.



Please visit our Book fair in our library until Tuesday 6th March. All commission will be used to buy books for our library.



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Library services

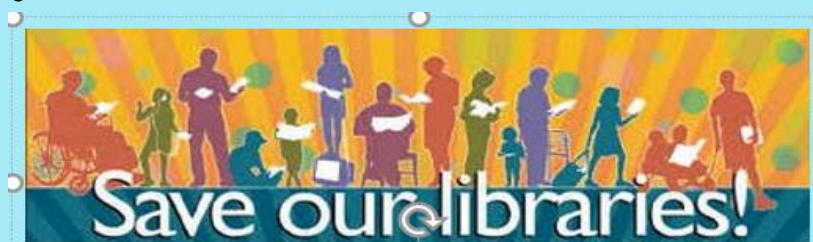
We are looking to respond to Northampton County Council, who have changed the opening times of our **wonderful library in Irthlingborough to Wednesdays 10am to 2pm.**

This will mean that school aged children will not be able to use the library at all! In our quest to support children's reading this is a real blow locally. We are looking at a school response but also to involve the children in trying to make this change. We all know the Local Authority has got to make cuts, but we may be able to get the times changed so that on the one day it is open it can be open for some time after school.

We want to improve and promote the love of reading for all our children, but this is going to be impeded by the closure of our local library. Four hours on a Wednesday during the school day is not acceptable! I am concerned that if the library is not used during this short, awkward time that it could lead to a total closure.

We are also concerned about the impact this will have on the town as since the services had changed at the Children's Centre, when the local authority removed it from the management of the school, many services have taken place at the library. It looks as if there will be even less support for our families in Irthlingborough.

Thank you, Amelia and Sebastian, who have started the ball rolling with letters they wrote on our Snow Day. Great work!



This will be a topic of discussion at our parent partnership group this week, in which parents, staff and governors will meet to discuss specific school and community issues.

Sport Relief 2018

Our Sport Relief day is Friday 23rd March. We are doing what is quickly becoming a tradition as it will be our 3rd year - THE GREAT IRTHLINGBOROUGH DANCE OFF. The classes are already practising a dance to share with a panel of distinguished judges! (Well myself, some year 6 children, Mrs Harvey and hopefully a member of staff from IJS).

Children can come into school wearing sporty clothes representing a team/club/group you support or belong to e.g. football, beavers, gymnastics, dance, rugby etc. Or dress as disco divas as we will be performing the dances! We ask for £1 donation to Sport Relief. The children will also be engaged in activities focusing on well-being and belonging.



We have **Sport Relief wrist bands** on sale **NOW!** Please send in a named envelop with £1, if your child would like one. We have a limited number available so please purchase early.