

Issue 16 May 2018

Happy Holiday Weekend!

We have a busy half term with Year two children working on their end of Key Stage One tests (SATs), Year One working towards their phonic screening checks and Reception being assessed for their end of Foundation Stage Profiles. All this is still done through exciting topic content and engaging lessons for the children. We have more information on our website in the curriculum area.

Nursery are learning all about living and growing.

Reception are working on the "Wild and Wonderful" and we have loved seeing the chicks hatch and grow.

Year One are looking at the world from "Coast to Coast".

Look out for "Storms and Shipwrecks" in the Year Two corridor!

See a SATs video for more information [SATs video - https://youtu.be/cuXJidYP7-0](https://youtu.be/cuXJidYP7-0)



Dates for Class assemblies

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.



Other dates

11th May- Homework to be completed

21st May – Choir go to the Northampton Eisteddfod

18th June 6pm- Choir at Huxlow music event

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

20th June Sports morning for reception.

25th June- Arts week begins

29th June- Summer Fair after school

7th June – Reception visit to West Lodge Farm

3rd July -Year 1 trip to Hunstanton- more details to follow.

5th and 6th July – Year 2 trip to Sealife Centre Birmingham



We are working very closely with Irthlingborough Junior School to ensure the best transitions for your child as they move from Year Two to Year Three. We have discussed ideas with our parent partnership group, which includes parents, governors and senior leaders from both schools. If you would like to join this group please phone the school so we can invite you to the next meeting.

Your Year Two child will come home with information and login details to Times Table Rock Stars, which has been provided by IJS to support with readiness to Key Stage 2. The children will be able to access this exciting learning platform at home and will use regularly in the Junior School.

Classes for September 2018

We are beginning to look at classes for September. We are planning to keep the Year Two children together in their classes as they move to Year Three and the Year Ones moving into Year Two. We will however look to mix up the Reception classes as they move into Year One and our Nursery children as they enter into Reception. We feel it is positive for children to make new relationships at certain points and we look at each year group in order to make these decisions. The teachers make these decisions using their observation of the children, friendships and academic outcomes, ensuring classes are evenly balanced. These final decisions will not be made until after the May half term holiday and we will not be discussing these decisions with the children until all classes are finalised so they can meet teachers and transitions can be carefully planned. There will be a number of transition activities particularly with those children moving to Year Three to ensure children have the best start to their new year group. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Nursery classes

We still have a few spaces in our fantastic nursery for September 2018. We can offer full days and fully funded places for those parents eligible for 30 hour placements for their child. All children are eligible for 15 hours and additional hours can be paid for. We have a very experienced Nursery teacher leading an exceptional nursery team. The nursery garden and indoor environment offers a safe and exciting space to play, learn and develop social skills and relationships. To start in September your child needs to have turned three by 31st August 2018. We will also be accepting children in January for those who turn three by December 31st 2018. Our nursery offers the best opportunities for school readiness, through fun, creativity and learning planned by highly qualified and dedicated staff.



Caravan update

We have chosen an idea for the outside of the caravan and Class councils have been discussing what they would like to see inside. We have some repairs to do inside the caravan before we can start with the work. We hope to have specialist support to do this from a local caravan company. We would like to thank you for your continued support with this project.

Data Sheets

Please remember to return your data sheets with at least 4 contacts including all parents with parental responsibility. This is very important to ensure we can contact you in an emergency. Please always inform the school office and update ParentMail if you change phone number or email. We would like to be able to email all parents- please see information regarding the ParentMail app.

Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Parents Survey

We had 213 responses to our parent survey and were very pleased with the outcomes. The vast majority of parents were happy with the quality of teaching and learning, their children enjoyed coming to school, felt that the staff responded to worries and that the school was well lead and managed. I was very pleased that parents had found the new termly reports helpful and informed the discussions they had with teachers. Parents also recognised that our school is a safe environment and that communication is a strong priority for us. Many parents who used Twitter commented on how they enjoyed seeing the pictures of the children and finding out about what the children were up too at school. For those of you that don't use Twitter for your social media maybe have a go at trying it out for our school tweets. Teachers regularly tweet information, pictures and hints about homework to support families. Try the adding the Twitter App and then searching @INISYearone, @INISreception, @INISnursery @INISMrsMarshall. It's worth a look just to see pictures of the chicks this term!!



A number of parents also mentioned the new format for homework giving parent and children a longer length of time to complete homework and more flexibility for family time. This change had come from parent feedback earlier in the year.

I'm reading through your comments and will be addressing any issues. If you would like feedback on any area of the survey then please do not hesitate to make an appointment with Mrs Marshall.

If you would like to complete the survey and you didn't have time at our parent partnership meetings with your child's teacher I have added the link here.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Parentspringterm18>

ParentMail App

We are very pleased that our communication came out very strongly as a strength of the school in the recent parent survey. We are always trying to improve communication with our parents. 52% of our parents use the Parentmail app. We would like to recommend the App to ensure parents receive messages quickly and effectively.



With the Parentmail app you can receive all your school messages in one place. There are several benefits to parents using the app.

It's free for parents to download!

All school messages will be sent securely.

No need to search through a busy email inbox for important messages.

Read school messages at work, at home or on the go.

Every message sent arrives as an instant alert on your mobile.

Please be assured that ParentMail is registered with the Information Commissioner and guarantees that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

If you need any additional information or assistance, please visit the help site:

www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/ or if you have not received any contact from ParentMail within 7days please contact Mrs Welch in the school office and she will try to help with the problem.

Helen.Welch@iflt.org.uk

School Attendance special edition



The vast majority of children at our school have excellent attendance and are very rarely absent from school. I felt that now as the warmer weather is approaching and winter illness are on a decrease it was a good time to remind parents of our attendance processes.

Attendance is monitored on a weekly basis as we believe it is important for children to get the education they are entitled to, ensuring they have the best life chances possible.

Average expected attendance at our school is **96%**. A **90%** attendance means that a child is missing the equivalent of 1/2 a day per week, which is a lot of learning time. If this continues as a pattern of attendance for 5 years a child will have missed **half a year of education**.

80%=1 day missing of learning every week, 70%=1 ½ days every week and 60% =2 days of learning every week.

In addition to the above, being late to school can have a considerable impact over the whole school year:

5 minutes late every day = 3 days of school lost a year

10 minutes late every day = 6.5 days of school lost a year

15 minutes late every day = 10 days of school lost a year

20 minutes late every day = 13 days of school lost a year

30 minutes late every day = 19 days of school lost a year

You will not be surprised to learn that children with lower attendance do not perform as well at school and ultimately do not do as well in exams and therefore do not get as many qualifications, often leading to more difficulties getting a job in the world of work.

This may seem a long way off for Infant aged children but at this stage the children are developing basic skills that form the basis for life long learning and as the children progress it can get difficult to fill these gaps in their learning.

The government send clear guidance to schools on attendance as for every child this is a legal requirement which parents are responsible for. Holidays in term time cannot be authorised and only 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 an unauthorised absence. 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.

I hope this helps parents to understand the school's and local authority's policy on attendance. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

We love to celebrate successes and each week in our Friday assembly, the class with the best or most improved attendance that week is awarded a certificate and 5 golden moments which are collected by the class to receive a treat once 100 have been collected. Each term we also give out certificates for good attendance.

