



Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School



Issue 20 June 2018

There are some great events to look forward to this term with our **sports days, Strictly dancers** at the Derngate and our **choir singing** at Huxlow Science College with their friends from IJS, the Finedon Schools and Huxlow. **We love working together!**

19th June – Book People Bus Event. Please note that this event has been postponed due to mechanical difficulties in the bus. We will rearrange for the Autumn term.

PLAY IS OFTEN TALKED ABOUT AS IF IT WERE A RELIEF FROM SERIOUS LEARNING. BUT FOR CHILDREN PLAY IS SERIOUS LEARNING. PLAY IS REALLY **THE WORK OF CHILDHOOD.**
-FRED ROGERS

Dates for the Summer Term

11th June – phonics screening week

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.

22nd June Sports finals for our house teams at Huxlow Science College

23rd June- Strictly team dance at the Derngate

25th June- Arts week begins

25th June – Keep a child warm coat collection

28th June – 7pm New Reception meeting for parents

29th June -Homework into school

29th June- Arts week parade and Summer Fair

16th July- Open evening- meet the teachers

17th July Nursery graduation

19th July – Leavers assembly 9.15am

Irthlingborough Radio Feature

Helen Blaby phoned the school on Monday to talk with Mrs Marshall about the school and Irthlingborough. This was part of a wider feature on the town. If you would like to hear the broadcast you can follow the link to the programme below. The feature about the school is about 34 minutes in if you would like to listen.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/Helen_Blabby_Irthlingborough

Smoking around the school site

Please can I remind parents that our school site, including the main access road as soon as you leave Scarborough Street is a smoke free environment to promote clean air for our young children on the site. We have had reports of parents smoking as they come into the school grounds. The children have clearly stated that they do not like grown ups standing around close to school and smoking. Please can you think about where you smoke and the messages you are sending to all the children. Our children do learn about the health risks of smoking and we always answer their questions honestly. **Please refrain from smoking in or around the school grounds and keep the air fresh and clean for our children!**

Website

Please remember to look at our website. If you miss out on newsletters or unsure about events you can check our website. There is information about the children's curriculum, a calendar and all our important policies.

<http://www.irthlingborough-inf.northants.sch.uk/home>

The School that gets the most votes following the link below has the opportunity to have Dylan Hartley, a Rugby player, teach a PE lesson. How fantastic would that be to have a Rugby superstar at our school!

<https://www.northampton saints.co.uk/community/win-your-school-a-pe-lesson-with-dylan-hartley>

We are excited about our up and coming **summer fair** on 29th June after our **carnival parade**. We are raising money to develop our reading caravan and library. Please come and help us.

Any safeguarding concerns please contact Mrs Harvey or Mrs Colquhoun 01933 654900, who will support you with your concerns, or contact the NSPCC on 0800 800 5000. [Report abuse to NSPCC](#)



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Online safety

We had fantastic staff training from **Simon Aston**, who works for the local authority, regarding the use of the internet and teaching children how to keep themselves safe on line. He also led two parent workshops, discussing how best to keep children safe on line.

There was lots of excellence advice for us as adults as well as supporting our children to become responsible and safe users of the internet.

Here are just a few of the pointers from the sessions:

The Four Ds:

- **Digital free zone**

Think about where the technology is in your house. Simon suggested to have some clear digital free zones, such as having a rule of no technology upstairs. He said that certainly to keep bedrooms digital free zones as this allows parents to set clear boundaries of use. He also suggested keeping X-boxes etc in family rooms such as the living room so parents see what their children are playing and more importantly who they are talking to in any live games.

- **Digital sunset** (2 hours before bedtime)

Simon discussed how the back light on tablets and computer screens actually stimulates the brain so it becomes more difficult to sleep. He talked about having clear times when the technology is turned off to allow restful sleep. The guidance says about two hours before bed time but he is a realist and suggests that an hour will certainly give time for children to begin to wind down ready for sleep.

- **Digital role models** (learnt behaviours, parents always on phones)

Children pick up from a very early age on what the people close to them are doing so by everyone keeping to the digital free zone this will help children learn. He talked about for example not having phones and tablets when eating and when you are talking to others not to have phones or tablets out. If as a parent we greet our children with a phone rather than a smile, we will be encouraging our children to do the same.

- **Digital detox**

This was one of my favourites – have some time every week without technology including your phone! Have time living in the moment and enjoying the here and now will encourage your children to be excited about other things. This is just thinking about how important all those other things are such as playing in the park, a walk to Stanwick Lakes, playing a board game or reading a real book!

Simon also stressed what a fantastic digital age we live in and all the fun, information, engagement and learning children can get at their fingertips. It's all our responsibility to ensure our children grow up safe and informed about how to use the internet. **Let's work together!**

Childnet International has some great resources including a family agreement.

<https://www.childnet.com/resources>