



Issue 7 January 2019

Happy New Year everyone! We are looking forward to an excellent 2019

Pupil Premium Voucher Extension period

We would like to offer all parents entitled to Pupil Premium a voucher for £100, if claimed by <u>1st February</u>, to support with trips, school jumpers, school photos, milk and clubs. This voucher could support uniform for cubs or rainbows too. After <u>1st February</u> parents will receive a **£50 voucher. For Nursery Pupil Premium** applications please see Mrs McVey in the office as the process and funding is different. The funding also supports their learning in school and we can help with any learning, social or emotional needs a child may have, with additional programmes or resources to improve their learning outcomes. This funding does not come out of their voucher. The voucher is for the parents to decide how they spend it and budget accordingly, for school activities and uniform.

If you think you may be eligible, please ensure you register online (see below), phone the school for more information or come into the office to talk to Mrs Harvey or Mrs Colquhoun who will be able to help you with this.

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

You need to 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.

How to register

You can apply on line by following this link

http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-andeducation/Pages/pupil-premium.aspx and select apply for pupil premium (Highlighted in purple).

The support helps your child for six years of your child's schooling even if your financial situation changes. You can reapply after the six years if your circumstances have not changed. To contact the County Pupil Premium service, ring 01604 366656.

If you do not have access to the internet there are laptops which you can use in school and a member of staff could support if needed. This can be done in a confidential space.

You need to apply for each child you have in school as they do not automatically get added to the list, even if they are siblings.

We will be saying goodbye to Mrs Welch, who has worked in our school office for many years. We wish her well with her new promoted post within the Health Care Trust. Please bear with us as we are making new appointments in the office and this will be a tricky time for 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 0808 800 5000. <u>Report abuse to NSPCC</u>



School



School communication

In February we are moving from Parentmail to our School Information System called Arbor. At present we hold all our pupil data in Arbor, so it therefore makes sense that we use this system to communicate information to parents too. We can text and email with Arbor as we did with Parentmail. We have already started trying out the system and you may have noticed that some emails have come directly to your inbox and not through the Parentmail App. Arbor is the same system that the Junior school use and so we hope this will help with smooth transitions as the children move into Key Stage Two.

We will no doubt have some glitches and this may be compounded by the fact we are changing office staff but again please stick with us and let us know if something doesn't work or it goes to the wrong email or phone number. We hope that the transition will be smooth but are realistic that any change can bring problems initially but hopefully in the long term it will help as across the primary phrase we will have one system that parents need to use. Please keep the office up to date with any email, address or phone changes.

Events

17th January – Scooter workshop for Reception in school

<u>17th</u> January- Year Two SATs meeting 2.15pm and 6pm. Please let your Child's class teacher know if you can attend by filling in the form, which has been sent home.

21st January- 6.30pm at IJS Learning for Life Education Trust AGM. All parent and carers welcome.

7th February 6pm-PTA meeting – all welcome

<u>15th February</u> -Mufti day. Children can wear their own clothes in exchange for bringing tinned and packet items for our local food bank.

15th February- Year Two Valentine's Coffee afternoon- parents, grandparents welcome.

15th February break up for the half term holiday. Return to school on Monday 25th February.

26th February- 9.10am Maths workshop for nursery parents.

Advanced warning- Save the date! - Friday 1st March -Men behaving Dadly. We will be organising activities on this morning for Dads, Uncles, Grandads to work with their children, from 9.45am- 11.30am.

<u>6th March 9am-</u> Move and Groove workshop for **reception parents.** Find out how we develop writing.

<u>3rd and 4th April</u>- Parent partnership meetings, an opportunity to discuss your child's progress.

Class Assemblies

All class assemblies start at 9.05am in the main hall. Please wait outside the hall door. We welcome all family members to **class assemblies** but not to the leavers assembly as there is very limited space. We limit this to two tickets per family.

23rd January – Mrs Chapman and Mrs Askew- Elephants

31st January – Mrs Hall and Mrs Wright – Flamingos

14th February – Mrs Mason's Class – Lemurs

21st March- Miss Garrett's Class- Sloths

16th May- Mrs Hurley's Class – Monkeys

22nd May -Mrs Groocock and Mrs Matthews- Tigers

13th June – Mrs Bailey- Dolphins

18th July 9.15am -Year Two leavers assembly

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We are looking forward to our training this term, from our staff, who have had the



opportunity to go to Italy or Sweden. This is part of our school improvement work and will drive the work we do in wellbeing and Early years education.

On $3^{rd} - 9^{th}$ February Mr O'Brien and Mrs Groocock will be going to Spain to learn about visual narrative and

how to use technology best to develop learning. From 10th to 15th February Miss Garratt and Mrs Bailey will also to going to Spain but will be looking at the global curriculum and ensuring that our curriculum offers all the global experiences our children need for modern day living. We will organise consistent cover so that the children maintain their excellent learning levels whilst their teacher is training.

Times Tables Rock Stars is now available all for Year Two children. It is quite tricky and aimed more at Key Stage Two but a number of the children have said they are enjoying playing the games at home. Please feel free to encourage your child with this programme. Times Tables is a skill they will use in everyday life.



Online Safety and Safeguarding

Please be aware that many apps and widely used internet sites do have adult content which is not suitable for our children. To access YouTube independently as an example you should be 18 years old. There are many suitable stories, pictures and features on YouTube for our children but it needs to be monitored by an adult as children can easily click on unsuitable content.

They should not be encouraged or supported to post videos or pictures of themselves on such sites or respond to any requests from others.

Just to remind parents children should not have FaceBook, YouTube or their own social media page. For most of these sites people should be 16 years old plus.

Teaching children about internet safety is part of the curriculum we teach but things change so rapidly we need a joint approach with parents and carers.

There are a few simple things you can do whilst your child is young to help instil good habits:

Monitor the use of tablets and gaming consoles.

Ensure the children do not play on technology within an hour of bedtime as this is proven to disturb sleep.

Play suitable games and research things together.

Add controls to help filter adult content.

Show your children how to close a site if they click on something that they feel uncomfortable with.

I have arranged for the NSPCC to visit all our children on 12th February. They will talk to the children about keeping safe in all situations, including online. They will also work with IJS.





<u>Clubs</u>

We have some fantastic clubs this term and still have some spaces available. We subsidise most of the clubs using our Sports funding to allow access for all families. Parents whose children are entitled to Pupil Premium are able to use their voucher to pay for clubs too.

We have spaces in Football on a Monday after school, Choir on a Monday after School, Wednesday we have a few spaces in archery and our new club Yoga on a Thursday, which again we have spaces. Archery, Yoga and Football are all £24 for the whole term up until Easter so please phone the office and get your child into one of our clubs. There is no cost for our choir club. We have one space left in gymnastics on a Tuesday evening. This is £35 as we employ two coaches for this club and the children will hopefully gain a proficiency certificate by the end of the term.

We also have a sewing club, book club and homework club running. There is no cost for these clubs and they run during lunch times.

There are still spaces too in Rocksteady. This is a weekly music lesson which the children actually learn and perform together in a band. The children in this club have loved it and their skills are really developing too. The lessons take place on a Thursday during the school day and cost £31.25 per month. Please phone 0330 133 0330, calls are charged at a local rate or email for information at <u>enrol@rocksteadymusicschool.com</u>

Clubs are a great way of encouraging a talent, learning a new skill and having fun, developing new friendships. We are very pleased with the high quality coaches and teachers we have for our clubs.

What's 1-2-3 Magic?

New Course starting 22nd January for 4 weeks 9am-11am this course will be running in the Children's Centre, please call 01933 654900 to register with Lesley or Tracy in the main office. This course is open to Nursery, Infant and Junior school parents.

ANSWER: A programme that supports the

3 parenting roles:-Control Unwanted Behaviours STOP behaviour

Encourage Good Behaviour

START BEHAVIOUR

Strengthening your relationship with your child

ENJOY

What it is NOT:- 1-2-3 Magic is NOT Magic 1,2,3 Magic dates: 22nd January 29th January 5th February 12th February All sessions 9am-11am.



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Year Group themes for Spring

Nursey- will be looking at journeys, maps, families and homes this term starting from what is familiar for our youngest children.

Reception- Are going **Up**, **up**, **up** and **away**, basing some of their work around a book called My Granny went to Market by Stella Blackstone and Christopher Corr. There are lots of opportunities in this story for global learning and exciting adventures! The children will also be talking about Chinese New Year.

Reception children will need to bring in wellies every Monday for outdoor learning. The children will be regularly using the nature area on the field behind school. We have purchased full waterproof suits so the children can be out in all weathers.

Year One – **Routes and Shoots** topic. The children will be learning all about their local area through some geography work and all about growing different plants in a whole science project.

Year Two- Are finding out about **Food Glorious Food!** There will be an emphasis this term on design technology and cooking skills and also geography through postcards sent from all around the world from the Gingerbread Man.

More details about the individual subjects and how to help at home will be sent out by year group teams next week.

On our January training days teachers worked on further developing the curriculum to suit the needs of our children here in Irthlingborough. We are looking at promoting a wide range of subjects based on the skills and knowledge our children will need now and in the future. We are working with IJS to ensure consistent learning as the children move into Key Stage Two.

We want to make the most of local resources and people, so if you or someone you know, has a particular skill such as a chief, a gardener, work for the emergency services, an artist or something else that you think will interest and enthuse our children then please let us know. Just pop in or phone to speak to Mrs Marshall, the head teacher. We are promoting **Possibilities, Growth and Diversity** throughout the year.

We have a final year teaching student learning his craft in Year one with Mrs Mason this term. Mr Lopez will be in school for the next ten weeks.

We also have a new teacher for Yoga on a Thursday afternoon for year one and year two. Mrs Steventon, will also be running a yoga club after school on a Thursday. This replaces Northampton Football club who ran football sessions on a Thursday.

Final notices

We are in need of spare clothes particularly coats, hats, wellies and gloves for our nursery and reception children. We are also short of spare socks and pants for all Infant ages. If your child has grown out of any clothes that you think will be of use, then please bring them into the main office.

Please check for head lice, as we have had a number of cases reported since returning to school. Please treat as soon as possible if you find any lice, to prevent spreading to others.

We are also looking for more reading helpers to read with our children in school to help them practise their key skills. If you can help on a regular morning or afternoon we would love to hear from you and can offer training.

We will be starting a loose change collection in each class. Each class will hopefully see their pot grow. The money raised by 15th February will be used for a Year Group activity or experience. More details to follow but please send in any change!