



Winter Weather

The weather forecast has predicted snow over the next few days. We hope that it is not too heavy and the roads stay clear. Please ensure that children are dressed appropriately on these freezing days. If we have snow and we have to close the school parents will be informed via our email system. In the past our text system has not coped with this large number of messages. Please can you ensure that you pass any urgent messages on to other parents to ensure everyone gets the messages they need. We will also email to ask for parents to help clear snow if this is also required. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sporting success

Mrs Bailey took a group of our children to a Cricket festival last week. We are very proud of our children who achieved very well. There were no winners or losers, but Mrs Bailey reported that the children were a credit to the school in their behaviour, attitude and the skills they demonstrated. They will be rewarded certificates in our celebration assembly on Friday.

Lending library in Reception, Year One and Year Two

We would like to try changing the way parents come into school to read with their children. We have been having weekly sessions at the end of the day, where those parents who can make it come in and share a book with their child or a small group of children. Some parents have given us feedback that these sessions sometimes feel a little rushed at a time when their children are most tired. We would like to devote some quality time to reading with parents in the school context but maybe not as regularly. We are going to try from next week, stopping the end of the day sessions and introducing a monthly morning session usually on a Tuesday so parents can just come straight into the classroom when they drop off, to read with their child or with a small group. The dates will be given well in advance, so parents know the times. The first session will be next week **Tuesday 5th February** starting at 8.50am until 9.20am. Parents are welcome to stay for a few minutes or up until 9.20am. The second session will be **Wednesday 6th March**, when we will have the book fair in to allow parents to take their child to the book fair, if the wish to do so. We will look for feedback on how these sessions go and in my next newsletter I will hopefully give you a list of dates to get us to the end of the year.

PTA fund raising

I would like to thank the PTA and all of our parents for all their support in raising funds for the school. The large play equipment on the main playground has been totally refurbished. It looks like new! This will ensure the children get plenty more years of fun and activity from the



equipment. The decking on the outside of the caravan has been completed and we finally have the carpenter coming to refit the inside of the caravan in the half term holiday. Thank you to the Wellingborough Lions for supporting us with our caravan project. They have helped raise funds and actually helped us source quality local craftsmen.



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Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Erasmus Funding from Europe

On 3rd – 9th February Mr O'Brien and Mrs Grocock will be travelling to Spain to learn about visual narrative and how to use technology best to develop learning. From 10th to 15th February Miss Garrett and Mrs Bailey will also be 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. This is a wonderful opportunity for staff to work with excellent practitioners across Europe. The staff will be delivering training across the Trust to develop our curriculum and continue to ensure we are providing a high quality curriculum that meets the needs of our children here in Irthlingborough. The staff going abroad will be covered by our regular supply teachers and our higher level teaching assistants, who also know the children well.



Erasmus+

A Polite Notice



At Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School we are committed to treating everybody with respect and courtesy, and to giving you a polite and effective response should you contact us.

Our staff and children also have the right to work in a safe environment, free from verbal abuse and other inappropriate behaviour directed at them.

We will take effective measures to support any employee who is subject to any inappropriate behaviour or written, verbal or non-verbal communication.

We therefore ask that visitors respond to this by showing polite, respectful behaviour when in contact with our staff and children.

This is particularly important at the moment as we train new staff and staff fill in covering the reception desk. We will do our best to get communication out to you but this may be difficult during this period of transition.

Positive Mental Health Awareness Day

We are organising a positive mental health day for all our children on **Friday 8th of February**. This is an awareness raising day for our school community but we have decided not to raise money for any charity this time. We ask that the children just wear something which is brightly coloured. The children will engage in a number of activities such as physical exercise, mindfulness activities and simple meditation. We also have employed a fully trained yoga teacher to work with each class during the day.

Positive mental health is vital for our children to develop as well rounded global citizens. We hope that the children have a fun day and learn new ways to manage feelings, emotions and social situations through the work that they will do.



We still have a few places in some after school clubs so please phone the main office and we may be able to book your child on one of our clubs.

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Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School presents: 'The spare change challenge!'

Throughout 2019, the school is celebrating 25 years of the PTA. We would like each year group to have their own celebrations so we are asking parents to bring any spare change they may have so the children can have a treat with the money collected. Each class will collect money until Friday 15th February 2019.

The **BIGGER** the fund, the **BIGGER** the treat!

Totals so far:

Yr 2 Flamingo (Mrs Hall) £37.40

Yr 2 Giraffe (Mr O'Brien) £29.02

Yr 2 Penguin (Miss Lees) £27.09

Yr 2 Zebra (Miss Smith) £4.63

Year 2 Total £98.14

Yr 1 Lemur (Mrs Mason) £25.55

Yr 1 Elephant (Mrs Chapman/Mrs Askew) £20.89

Yr 1 Sloth (Miss Garrett) £2.50

Year 1 Total £48.94

Rec Monkey (Mrs Hurley) £31.13

Rec Dolphin (Mrs Bailey) £28.93

Rec Tiger (Mrs Grocock/ Mrs Matthews) £9.15

Reception Total £69.21

Nursery Total £7.50

Teachers will be talking to their classes about how they would like to spend the money across their year group.



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Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Events

7th February 6pm-PTA meeting – all welcome

8th February -Well- being and mental health day. We will be promoting positive mental health on this day. **The children can wear brightly coloured clothes on this day, but we are not collecting any money for charity. We will be collecting the children's smiles only!**

12th February- **NSPCC assembly** Speak out, Stay safe.

15th February -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.

Monday 25th February Return to school

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.

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

8th March- **INIS World Book Day- Dress as a book character**

15th March- **Red Nose Day** and the Great Irthlingborough dance off!

3rd and 4th April- 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.

14th February – Mrs Mason's Class – Lemurs

21st March- Miss Garrett's Class- Sloths

16th May- Mrs Hurley's Class – Monkeys

22nd May -Mrs Grocock and Mrs Matthews- Tigers

13th June – Mrs Bailey- Dolphins

18th July 9.15am -Year Two leavers assembly

Reception and nursery are short of spare tights, socks and pants. If you have any spares to donate, please bring them in.

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Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Driving and parking around the town and school

Please can parents drive and park responsibly around our school and the town. We have had further complaints about poor parking and dangerous driving. The Town Council have employed traffic wardens to help with the parking issue in Irthlingborough and they will issue fines for parking dangerously and illegally.

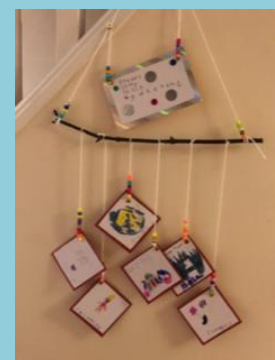


There is plenty of safe parking in the town by St Peter's Church. Please can I remind parents that the school vehicle access gates are locked between 3.10pm and 3.30pm for all vehicles and there is no access to parent vehicles anytime during the day.

We have heard locally that there will be road closures in College Street and Scarborough Street over the next few weeks. This may further add to the congestion and frustrations around parking near school. Please be aware of this and give yourself plenty of time to walk to school from a little further away.

Homework

Staff are loving the children's creative approaches to their homework. Children who can demonstrate their learning practically and can talk about it, make great progress. Keep sending us your pictures on Twitter. Teachers look at this and will talk to the children about their work. We have noticed this year that we have fewer parents using Twitter. We realise that a number of parents maybe prefer and regularly use other social media platforms such as Facebook, however Twitter, at school, does seem to work as a way of sharing what the children have been doing at home and school.



If you haven't had a go yet, download the Twitter app, look us up @INIS and give it a try!



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Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Men Behaving Dadly

All you men out there we would like to invite you into school on **Friday 1st March**, to come and work with your child on an activity in school or nursery. We would like to arrange activities that dads, uncles or grandads can do with their child in class. We are particularly keen to find out what skills you have before planning the details of the day so we can work to your strengths.

Please email Miss Chapman one of our deputy heads on Rachel.chapman@iflt.org.uk if you have something you could share such as being an artist, a baker, a chef, a policeman or maybe you just love reading, then we want to hear from you. Just let us know your name, child's name and class and the skill or ability you could share with others. We are particularly interested in working with dads and their lads, as this has proven to support rapid progress in some cases with boys.

We are keen to get as many "Men Behaving Dadly", into school and nursery and share some experience with their child. Our PTA are looking to serve bacon rolls to begin the day.

Please do not forget to email Miss Chapman regarding anything you can offer to share with the children. We are particularly looking for men who are happy, reading with our children.

We plan for this to be a fun day with lots of learning from the amazing men, we have in our community. If you know a man who has a relevant skill then please contact the school office.

If you have a little spare time to volunteer we are keen to invite you in to work in some of our classes on a regular basis. We ask all our regular volunteers to have a DBS check, which we can arrange in school, as we ensure that all our children are safeguarded in our setting.



Tissues

We are in the full swing of winter the weather! Please can each family send in a box of tissues for their class. We have a few runny noses at this time of year and if everyone sent in a box of tissues to their class we would soon be able to wipe all those noses!



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