

# Head Teacher's Newsletter

@MrGarley



Irthlingborough Junior School

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

## **Welcome Back!**

I hope you had a good Easter and enjoyed the warm spring weather. We're back into the summer term and enclosed in this newsletter you will find information about upcoming dates and events happening in school.

## **Dates for Summer**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 Rainforest Day
26 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 Rainforest Day
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 5 Mount Cook Parents' Meeting
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3 Egyptian Day
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3 Egyptian Day
9 <sup>th</sup> May	NSPCC Parent Workshop
13 <sup>th</sup> May	SAT week and Mount Cook residential
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 London Eye visit
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Year 6 London Eye visit
24 <sup>th</sup> May	School May Fayre/Close for half term
5 <sup>th</sup> June	Class photographs
10 <sup>th</sup> June	4JC visiting Rutland Water
13 <sup>th</sup> June	4CP visiting Rutland Water
17 <sup>th</sup> June	4TM visiting Rutland Water
20 <sup>th</sup> June	4HG visiting Rutland Water (tbc)
25 <sup>th</sup> June	Charity coat collection
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Huxlow transition day 1
1 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 6 Huxlow transition day 2
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 6 Prom
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Raunds Manor Transition day
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Raunds Manor Transition day
7 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Isle of Wight residential 1
10 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Isle of Wight residential 2
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Southfields transition day
19 <sup>th</sup> July	End of summer term

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## **Staffing for the summer term**

Mrs Preshaw left at Easter to begin her maternity leave. We welcome Mr Gower to school to cover the period of maternity until the end of the summer term. In Year 5, Mrs Blake is joining us to teach in 5JF for two days a week.

In both Year 4 and 5 this term, we are mixing the children for maths and writing so your child may not be taught by their class teacher for these subjects. These groups are not fixed and may change depending on the units being taught in these lessons.

## **Safeguarding and safety**

Online Safety - On the 9<sup>th</sup> May we have the NSPCC visiting to deliver a parent workshop at 9:00am. The hour-long workshop will help parents and carers understand their child's online world and build confidence to have those important conversations that can help keep children safe online. This is a joint initiative with the infant school and will take place in the Junior School assembly hall.

Road Safety – we are working closely with a range of partners from the town to promote all things concerned with road safety. Just before the Easter holiday, we were invited to a special meeting of the Town Council to discuss how we can make our roads safer around the school. Please do not park around the school site when bringing your children to school. Do not use College Street or Scarborough Street as 'drop-off' points. The roads aren't suitable for this purpose and make them unsafe for other parents and children.

## **Playground Development**

Double-decker bus – We have had some exciting news recently: Stagecoach are donating a double-decker bus to the school. We have been in discussion with them for almost a year and finally, we received the news last week that they have a bus ready to be decommissioned that we can use. The bus is being given free of charge and it is being towed into school during the May half term. We will paint the exterior and create two different environments inside the bus for the children to use. The lower deck will be open to children at playtimes and lunchtimes and will be stocked with books, magazines, comics and games.

Playground mural – over the Easter holiday we ran a competition to design playground murals. We are having two walls painted (one in each playground) by a local artist. This will hopefully take place before the end of the summer term.

**Both the funding for the mural and the double-decker bus are being provided by the Irthlingborough Junior School PTA.** Without them, projects like these would be impossible to fund.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'NPG - G', is written in the bottom right corner of the page.

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## **Attendance**

We set a target for all children for 96% attendance at school. At the moment we are just falling below that target and the school average attendance figure for the year up to the end of the spring term is 95.8%.

Any absence needs to be communicated to the school office every day your child is away from school. We do not authorise term time holidays. You will have had a report for your child's attendance during last term's parent consultation evening.

Good attendance is essential for children to meet their full academic potential. At the end of the spring term, we rewarded those children who had met the 96% attendance mark by entering them into a prize draw to win an Amazon Fire Kindle. The lucky winners were Keira in 6BL and Florence in 3EW.

## **Standardised Assessment Tests**

Year 6 sit their SATs this term. Their first test is on the 13<sup>th</sup> May. The timetable is as follows:

Date	SAT Paper
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling x 2
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Reading paper
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Maths paper 1
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Maths paper 2

Further information will be sent home for Year 6 children from their year group nearer the time.

## **May Fayre**

On the afternoon of Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May, we are having a May Fayre. You are invited into school to watch the children perform country dancing and then stay to enjoy refreshments, stalls and games.

The event is being organised by the PTA. Further information about timings will be sent out nearer the date.

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