



Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

A special time of year!

We are getting ready for Christmas with good cheer and great learning over this last week before the holidays. The children are starting winter-based writing projects and artwork for calendars. Our concerts began on Monday, with Year Two starting us off. It was a fantastic start and certainly had everyone feeling Christmassy!

Christmas concerts in December

13th 9.30am/2pm **Reception**

17th 9.30am/2pm **Year One**

This is a ticketed event with 2 tickets only per family due to space in the hall.

Homework Return date:
Friday 20th December

Thank you to those parents who filled in our **parent survey** at the parent partnership meetings. If you didn't get the opportunity to fill it in on the night, please follow the link. We value your views.
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/inisaut19>

The General Election is on 12th December.

Please remember to use your vote. We can all have our say!

New club information

coming out this week. Please keep an eye on bookbags!

Spring Parent meetings

Save the dates. These will be after school meetings with parents regarding progress.
25th March
1st April

Parent and Child reading sessions. 8.50am-9.15am

Thursday 23rd January

Wednesday 26th February

Friday 13th March

Wednesday 1st April

Other events

12th December- Key Stage One Disco

13th December – Christmas Jumper day

18th December- Nursery trip to West Lodge Farm

19th December – Christmas lunch. This must be booked by **Wednesday 11th December**, 11.59pm. If your child hasn't tried a lunch with Kingswood before this is a good time to give it a go. Staff will be serving the children on this special day!

19th December- Reindeer Run and school Christmas jumper day.

20th December – Christmas craft breakfast 9am-9:45am

20th December – Party Day- Party Mufti or Christmas jumpers! (Need to get our wear out of the Christmas jumpers) Look out for Father Christmas's elves on this day!

Class Assemblies

Each class shares an assembly about their learning once during the year in which we invite parents, carers and grandparents. The assemblies start at 9am in the main hall.

Dolphins	29 th January
Penguins	12 th February
Sloths	11 th March
Monkeys	18 th March
Meerkats	25 th March
Tigers	13 th May
Elephants	20 th May
Lemurs	17 th June





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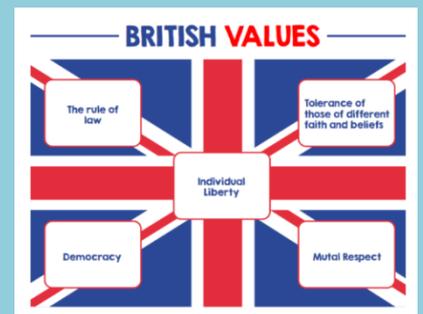
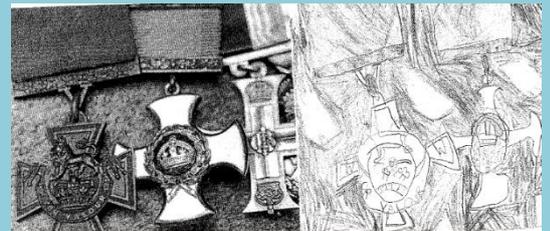
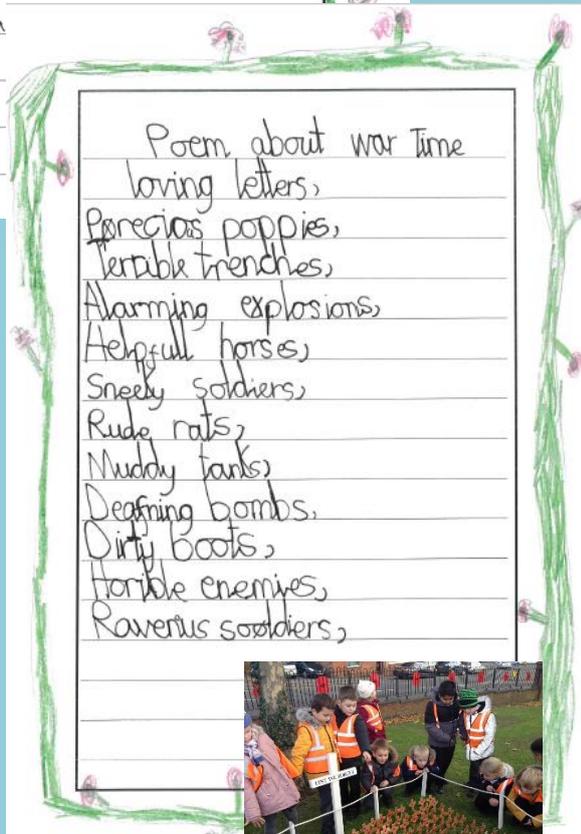


World War One in Year Two

Year Two have been learning all about World War One. They all attended the Cenotaph and have talked about the conditions in war. They have read the famous poem In Flanders Fields and shared their own ideas for a war poem. The children have enjoyed finding out all about life in the past and how things have changed. We have also been talking about British Values and the importance of respecting others now and in the past. Please follow the link to find the Irthlingborough roll of honour. <http://www.roll-of-honour.com/Northamptonshire/Irthlingborough.html> There is an amazing local history of brave soldiers.



The children have enjoyed reading books and finding out all about the history of this difficult part in our British history. They will also be learning about democracy with the General Election this week.



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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Safeguarding News

Please can I ask all parents to ensure that they provide four emergency contact numbers to the school. These can include work numbers, family members or neighbours. We have had a number of occasions recently, where phone numbers have not worked and we haven't been able to contact a parent or responsible adult when a child has been ill. We only call when we need to - but it is important we have at least three, preferably four phone numbers. Please pop into the office or phone to speak with Mrs Hennessey, who will add new numbers to our secure system.

Message from Northamptonshire police

Drivers are once again being reminded of the dangers and consequences of getting behind the wheel while under the influence of drink or drugs as Northamptonshire Police gets set to launch its annual campaign.

From Monday 9th December, the Force will be taking part in the month-long Christmas drink and drugs drive campaign to tackle offending in a bid to make the roads safer over the festive period.

Officers carry out breath tests throughout the year, however with more people out celebrating over Christmas and New Year, increased patrols and roadside checks will be held across the county.

These will also include early morning operations, when people may be driving after consuming alcohol or taking drugs the night before and may not realise that they are still over the limit.

Chair of the Northamptonshire Safer Roads Alliance (NSRA), Chief Superintendent Mick Stamper, said: "We are committed to increasing road safety in Northamptonshire and through this campaign, we will continue to raise awareness of the dangers of drink or drug driving.

"There is absolutely no excuse or circumstance that could ever justify drink or drug driving – it is exceptionally selfish and reckless. Not only are you risking your own life, but those of innocent road users."

As part of the campaign, drivers charged with drink or drug driving will be publicly named on the Northamptonshire Police website and social media. This is the third time the Force has taken such a hard line approach.

To report suspected drink or drug driving in confidence, call the Drivewatch Hotline on 0800 174615 or dial 101. In an emergency, call 999.



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Pupil Premium

All children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 are automatically entitled to free school meals under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme. There is extra support for some children called Pupil Premium.

Pupil Premium - extra support for your child

You can apply for the Pupil Premium which provides your child's school with additional funding to support them. If you are in receipt of any of the below benefits, please apply.

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, with no element of Working Tax Credit, and a household income below £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs)
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit

How do I apply for Pupil Premium to support my child at school

To apply for Pupil Premium please complete an online form which will give you an instant decision. Please see below link:

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/pupilpremium

Contact

To contact the Pupil Premium team the best and quickest way is to pop them an email to freeschoolmeals@northamptonshire.gov.uk They aim to respond in no longer than 3 working days.

All children who are eligible for Pupil Premium at Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant school currently receive extra financial help with purchasing school sweatshirts, club, trip payments and more **importantly additional support with their learning**. This maybe through using the Reading Eggs programme, additional support in class or additional challenge work. It is important that even if your circumstances change for a few weeks, that you apply as whatever happens after that, your child will be able to have the additional help for the next six years wherever they are at school.

If you would like to find out more phone Mrs Harvey on 01933 654900. There is a voucher, which can be used in school, worth £75 for families who sign up before January 15th. This will reduce to £40 after this date, for new pupil premium applicants.

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Massage in schools

We would like to tell you all about the **Massage in Schools Programme**. The programme has been specially designed for school aged children to work in pairs doing child to child massage. All the children are fully clothed and are taught a simple set of routines for the back, arms, head and neck. There have been many positive effects noted from research into the Massage in Schools Programme including lowering stress levels, increasing levels of concentration for learning and better sleep at home. It has been shown to enhance physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of children around the world.

What is the Massage in Schools Programme?

The Massage in Schools Programme (MISP) is a clothed, child-to-child massage programme aimed at school children aged 4-12. The programme was created by Mia Elmsäter from Sweden and Sylvie Hetu from Canada, as a result of their combined work in education and massage.



The MISP is:

- For children 4-12 years old
- A back, neck, head and arm massage given by the children to each other
- Given and received with the child's permission
- 10 minutes daily routine

What are the benefits of massage in schools?

Studies and observations have shown that by taking part in the MISP children experience a range of positive benefits such as:

- Children become calmer
- They have improved concentration
- They have more confidence
- Helps children recognise 'good' and 'bad' touch
- Children develop better motor skills
- Teaches children to respect themselves and others
- Reduces bullying and aggressive behaviour



We already do this in Year Two for 10 minutes at the beginning of the afternoon. The children in Year One and Reception, will be taught a series of movements and will build their skills, over a number of weeks. We are confident that our children will enjoy this and benefit from the positive outcomes, as our Year Two children already have.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Marshall.

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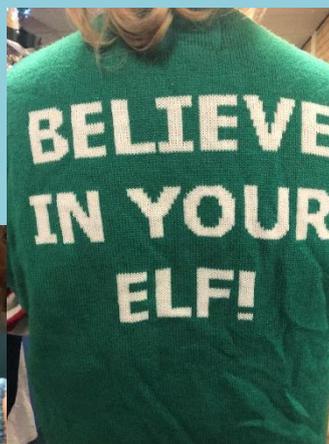


Santa has already been to Irthlingborough!

Father Christmas visited our Christmas Grotto last week. It was a brilliant event which was very well organised and a magical experience for our children. The PTA have lots more Christmas events planned with cakes, hot drinks and a raffle at the concerts, Christmas disco on Thursday, Christmas presents for Mums and Dads and finally on the last day of term we are having a Christmas Craft Breakfast. There will be more details coming out about the breakfast.

The PTA are working hard to support the school in lots of ways and have already raised over £1000 this term. We have a plan to develop reading in school as our main driver for improvements this year and as part of this the PTA are giving £300 to each class to buy new book boxes and soft furnishing to create magical reading areas for children. The teachers are working on research projects over Christmas to find the best ways to engage all our children in reading. Any parent who purchased a book from our Book Fair has supported too as we have just been able to buy £700 worth of books from Scholastic. We have focused on high quality engaging texts for each year group.

So, thank you everyone! Please keep supporting us and bring your change to the concerts for the raffle and our donation pot. This year we are keeping all our donations to support with in-school projects such as the class reading spaces and new cookers as our current ovens are old and now broken!



Try this link for some Timetables challenges over the holidays <https://www.mathschase.com>

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