



Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Issue 5 November 2020



New National Restrictions

We are now in a new national lockdown. We will continue to ensure that our children have a positive, safe and happy time in school. They will continue to learn new things and receive quality teaching. The government advice is clear, children should be in school, continuing with their learning, with their friends and teachers. We have a safe environment and we continue with all our additional hygiene and cleaning routines. As Northamptonshire Covid 19 rates of infection rise, we have introduced the additional measure of face coverings at drop up and pick up times. This has become part of the site risk assessment as the local infection rates increased. We realise that face coverings are there to protect others, so thank you to all those parents and carers who can support us, helping to keep each other safe.

Pupil Premium

Remember to check if your child is eligible for Pupil Premium. We offer a £100 voucher for our Pupil Premium families to spend on a variety of things. There can also be extra support for learning with our Pupil Premium children in school. There are three easy ways to check your eligibility. See the information below:

 Call 01604 366656	 Apply online	 Text 'FSM' followed by your full name, National Insurance Number, your child's name and school name to 60622
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Why wear a face covering?

Coronavirus (COVID-19) usually spreads by droplets from coughs, sneezes and speaking. These droplets can also be picked up from surfaces, if you touch a surface and then your face without washing your hands first. This is why social distancing, regular hand hygiene, and covering coughs and sneezes is so important in controlling the spread of the virus.

The best available scientific evidence is that, when used correctly, wearing a face covering may reduce the spread of coronavirus droplets, helping to protect others.

Because face coverings are mainly intended to protect others, not the wearer, from coronavirus (COVID-19) they are not a replacement for social distancing and regular hand washing.

Information for children who may be worried about people wearing face coverings.

www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/facemasks

Am I eligible?

If you are receiving **any one of the awards** listed below then you are eligible for the pupil premium grant:

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to working tax credit) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Universal Credit

The voucher **can be used to pay for:**

- Trips and visits
- Payment for clubs
- Uniform such as a new sweatshirts/cardigans or PE T-shirts (£30 maximum).
- Books from the school book fair (maximum £20).
- School milk (if your child is over 5 years of age).
- School photographs (maximum £20)
- Snack

What can I use the voucher for?



Why we wear our mask

- We understand we can spread the disease before we have symptoms
- We don't know if the droplets we see near us or when talking, coughing, or sneezing are from other people
- We want our community to be able to understand why we wear our face coverings to stay healthy
- We need to protect our neighbours, workers and the responders, its good that now more than ever
- We want to do our part to slow the spread



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US IN WEARING YOUR MASK!

Please be aware that some adults are exempt from wearing face coverings. We do not know everyone's personal circumstances or conditions.

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact the school on 01933 654900, the local authority [Report a concern to NCC](#) or NSPCC [Report a concern to NSPCC](#)

Parent Partnership meetings

Thank you to all those parents who attended our virtual parent partnership meetings. We still have a number of parents who were unable to join us. Teachers will be emailing out to parents to arrange either a short telephone meeting or a brief email, sharing how your child has settled into their new classes and what they need to work on next. Please ensure you reply to your class teacher, so they know whether to phone or email you.

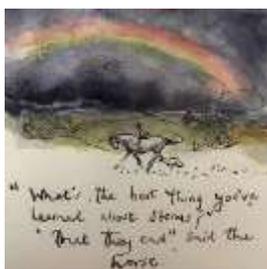
We are very impressed with how all the children have settled and how they are progressing with their learning.

Big Draw Day

The children took part in our very own Big Draw Day on the Friday before the half term holiday. We focused on the buildings in our town. Reception, Year one and Year two children all went on local walks and used their knowledge to draw some amazing art work. The art work was inspired by the illustrations of Quentin Blake and Charles Mackesy and some more traditional artists Picasso, Renoir, Van Gogh and Kandinsky.

We are hoping that we can find a way of displaying the art work for parents to see too!

But for now please take a look at some of our artwork below!



By Charles

Mackesy



By Quentin

Blake

Hidden Disabilities



Please be aware that we have children and adults coming onto our site who may have hidden disabilities such as autism, ADHD, diabetes or mental health issues to name but a few. Please do not judge when you see that small child screaming or running away from his or her mum, maybe just offer some help or support.

These parents are dealing with struggles everyday and would maybe welcome a kind word of support, as we all would even if we are just having a bad day!



Your child can wear any sports or active wear clothing on this day as we will be doing some physical outdoor challenges on this day. Teachers will have a bucket for donations which will be counted and banked for CIN after a quarantine period.

PLEASE DO NOT BE EARLY TO DROP OFF OR PICK UP YOUR CHILD. THIS IS NOW CAUSING PARENTS TO QUEUE, MAKING SOCIAL DISTANCING VERY DIFFICULT AT TIMES! LET'S TRY TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE.

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BIG DRAW 2020

Your Children have produced some amazing art work of our town. Irthlingborough is a beautiful place!



The children went out in the local streets to really look at the buildings around them. The details are evident in their drawings.

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Big Draw 2020



The children studied different artists to support their drawings.



Even our youngest children see themselves as artist!

Please help us keep everyone safe at school by keeping to your class time. We still have many parents arriving far too early, before the gates are open. Children will not be deemed as being late until after 9.10pm. If you do not have older children at IJS, starting early, you do not need to be on site before 8.50am as this is the time of the first class opening.

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact the school on 01933 654900, the local authority [Report a concern to NCC](#) or NSPCC [Report a concern to NSPCC](#)

For more information visit our website: <https://www.irthlingborough-inf.northants.sch.uk/home>

As we go into lockdown again, it is important to keep all of us engaged with the outdoors. Please follow the link to find out some lovely ideas some of which some can be done from a balcony or window.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/18-ways-to-enjoy-outdoors/zb9wjhv>



1. Make your own binoculars

If your little one is going to look closely at the outdoors, they need something to do it with! Collect cardboard tube inners, attach with sticky tape and ta-dah... [their very own DIY binoculars](#). Encourage your child to get spotting through their 'lenses' and talk about what they can see.

2. Play weather bingo

Make a list of common weather conditions like windy, rainy, sunshine, cloudy, cold and frosty. Look outside every day and tick off what's happening. Add extra interest by making a list of other things your little ones could spot like birds, chimney, aerial and car. They could also draw a daily picture of the weather, so you can create a weather diary during the lockdown.

3. Have a game of skittles

Brilliant for your child's coordination and communication skills. [To create your own skittles set](#), simply use rolled-up socks as a ball, and empty bottles or toilet roll tubes as the skittles. Play inside or out, and ask your little one to describe what they are doing as the action happens.



Congratulations Miss O'Callaghan

We are pleased to announce another baby into our Irtlingborough Nursery and Infant School family. Malachy O'Callaghan was born over half term. He is gorgeous with lots of dark hair!

Both mother and baby are doing well and Miss O'Callaghan sends her love to all her little Elephants out there!

We all look forward to meeting if when it is safe to do so.

Apply for your Reception or Year three place

Please follow the link to apply for either a child starting in Reception or your Year Two child moving to Year Three by January 15th at 5pm. Please follow the link to fill in the online form. [NCC admissions for 2021](#)



Kingswood meals

Our reintroduced Kingswood hot meals have gone down brilliantly with our children. Please remember these are free. You just need to order them on line by midnight on Wednesday to get meals for the following week. It's easy to register by following the link but if you need help just phone the school office. <https://www.kingswoodcatering.co.uk/>

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[Reading with Oxford Owl and Reading Eggs](#)

It's a great time to start reading together and sharing the many exciting children's books there are. We realise that it may be more difficult to access books so an easy way is through Reading Eggs or Oxford Owl. Oxford Owl is a free website that you can sign up too and access information about all aspects of English. There are reading books your children can access and books to share. There is a great section on phonics too. We use "Letter and Sounds" and there is a video which clearly shares the pronunciation of the 44 letter sounds to support both children and their parents. Please follow the link below and then sign up to the site.



<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/learn-to-read-phonics/>



Reading Eggs is a programme, which we have paid for so all of our Reception and Year One children can access this great resource, You will have a login which has been sent home so you can access the website. It can be accessed on a laptop, tablet or mobile phone. There are games, books to read and mini lessons to support the development of your child's phonic

knowledge, which is key to learning to read. The children can have lots of fun on this programme and develop their reading skills. If you have misplaced the log in details please email you child's class teacher on the class email and they can help you out.

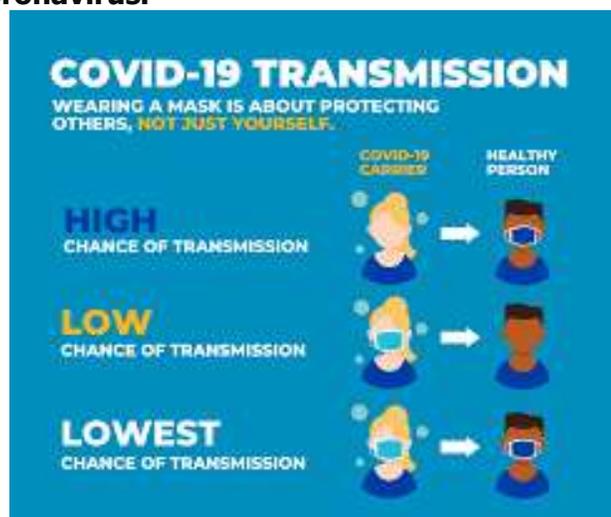
<https://readingeggs.co.uk/signup1/>

It is important to follow all the government advice on coronavirus.

If you have recent onset of any of the most important symptoms of coronavirus:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia)

you and your household must isolate at home: wearing a face covering does not change this. You should [arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19](#) and ensure you contact school.



[Click here to visit our Twitter pages](#)

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Christmas Joy



The children have done a super job of designing Christmas cards. You should have received your order form in your child's book bags. All orders need to be made online by 15th November and will then be delivered into school in enough time to get the orders out to you at the beginning of December.



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