



Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Issue 8 December 2020



Christmas is coming!



This year, we know Christmas will be different for a lot of children and families but we still want to keep as much of the magic as we can for children in School. The PTA are doing a great job, helping the elves with secret Santa presents and also presents for parents. Please support us this year with this activity. The PTA are also funding additional lovely books and resources for every classroom. The children will open Santa gifts together at their Christmas parties. The teachers and children have been working hard, to help catch up with lost learning time throughout this pandemic so children and staff will certainly be ready for a Christmas break when it comes.

Christmas events

A story every night on our website- 18 days of December. Check out who is reading a Christmas story tonight! [18 days of December link](#) We are very excited to share lots of Christmas and Winter stories with your child.

Amazon wish list- instead of buying cards and presents for staff and children in school we are asking parents to look at the books in our Amazon Wish list. We have chosen books for every year group to add topics and learning next term and beyond. If you say it's a gift at check out, you can write a message and say who it is from. We will add a thank you in the book with your child's name on it. [INIS Amazon wish list](#)

Friday 4th December - find the elves in school! The children do not need to do anything different just look out for the Elves! **Friday 11th**

December- Christmas jumper day- all donations to save the Children. Please send in an envelope marked donation so we can quarantine before counting.

Thursday 17th December – Kingswood Christmas lunch. This needs to be ordered by midnight on the 9th December. Please follow the link if you don't usually book a meal. <https://www.kingswoodcatering.co.uk/>
Thursday 17th and Friday 18th December- PTA mufti and Christmas party days across school and nursery. Children can wear party clothes or Christmas jumpers/dresses. Party activities will be spread over both days with learning tasks still happening too!

Dates for the diary

From the 1 st December	Christmas stories every day 18 days of December link
Friday 11 th December	Christmas Jumper Day Watch a video about this: Christmas jumper link for children
Friday 11 th December	Homework in and new home work out
Thursday 17 th December	Kingswood Christmas lunch. Book before 9 th December 12 midnight
Thursday 17 th and Friday 18 th December	PTA mufti days – Children can wear party clothes/Christmas clothes and parties in school
Friday 18 th December	Break up for winter break
Tuesday 5 th January	Children return to school

We have school tours for nursery aged children starting Reception in September. See below and follow the link to book a tour.

New Reception Zoom Tours		
7 th December 11am Book your Zoom tour	December	New Reception 2021 virtual Zoom tour
10 th December 5pm Book your Zoom tour	December	New Reception 2021 virtual Zoom tour
11 th January 2pm Book your Zoom tour	January	New Reception 2021 virtual Zoom tour

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](#)

Join us for a Christmas celebration

Classes are unable to share a Christmas concert as they usually would but we wanted to share something with you virtually to get you into the Christmas spirit. The children will sing a couple of Christmas songs and share a simple poem or rhyme. This will be via a live Zoom into your child's class. They will be short and you should be able to view it on your phone from anywhere. We will not be sending out recordings as we want everyone involved and this could limit, who can be in our videos. A Zoom link will be sent out via the Class email nearer the time. We expect that you will name your device as your child, so we know who we are admitting into the Zoom call.



This is **not** a performance as such just a sharing of a little Christmas joy!

Monkey Class	15 th December 10.30am
Meerkat Class	15 th December 2pm
Dolphin Class	15 th December 1.30pm
Lemur Class	17 th December 1.45pm
Panda Class	17 th December 1.45pm
Sloth Class	17 th December 1.30pm
Tiger Class	17 th December 1.30pm
Penguin Class	17 th December 10am
Zebra Class	17 th December 10am
Giraffe Class	17 th December 10am

Mrs Luke will be in touch via email to let you know what the nursery children will be doing as it will be slightly different for them.

Other Christmas fun!!

We are hoping to put up some of the children's art work in an empty building near the Cross to spread the Christmas joy! The children are doing some paintings at the moment to share.

We are creating additional art work, for our elderly local residents at some of the care homes to again spread some INIS joy! We know this is a difficult time particularly for our **elderly residents**. We would usually take children to visit and sing but it's not appropriate at the moment. This is just a small thing we can do to support others.



Do you want to send a card to a teacher or someone who works in a school. Here's a brilliant way to do it, Covid safely!



Show your appreciation and [send a free 'Thank A Teacher' e-card](#) to anyone working in school.



Do you know a classroom hero?

Nominations for next year's Teaching Awards are opening soon... Keep an eye on the Teaching Awards website for more information or [register your interest](#).

Uniform

We are changing our uniform suppliers from Brigade to Karlsport. More details will follow but it will mean that all local uniform for INIS, IJS and Huxlow can be purchased through the same supplier. We will have the same type of sweatshirts and cardigans and we are looking at some new products too. The move is purely to be more user friendly to our parents and ensure that those parents who want to physically go to a shop can do so. More details will follow soon.

Thank you to all those families who are arriving on time or maybe a few minutes later to go into class to relieve the pressure on the site and ensure your child has a calm start to the day. **The school gates will not open until just after quarter to nine and ten to three in the afternoon.**

Food Bank

We didn't ask for harvest donations this year but we know that the food bank needs donations during the Christmas period. If you have any spare food tins or packets, please drop them off at Costcutter or the Co-op in Irthlingborough.

Pupil Premium

We know during the pandemic many family's circumstances changed even for just a while. If you have claimed one of the benefits listed recently or are doing so now it is worth checking to see if you are eligible for Pupil Premium.

If you need any support with this, please contact the school office, we will be happy to help.



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

There is no stigma or difference for your child in class other than they will be supported more for their individual needs. There will be a £100 voucher parents can use. The Pupil premium lasts **for six years even if your work situation changes.**

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?



 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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[Click here to go to our Twitter feed on our website](#)

[Click here to see our Facebook page](#)

PTA events

Grown up Gift Shop

Special grown up Christmas gift shop is now open! This allows parents to have a Christmas treat too! Letters for this have gone out in children's book bags. The deadline for slip returns is **Friday 4th December 2020**. We cannot accept forms after this date as the PTA



team need time to purchase enough gifts in time for wrapping and COVID restrictions will make this task more difficult than normal. This year the event will be run differently to ensure it is COVID safe. Children will come home with their gifts after Friday 11th December.

Secret Santa Christmas Eve Gift

Since we cannot have Santa visit the school this year during our usual Christmas events, we would still like to give the children an opportunity to have a little gift.



These will be priced at £2 per gift and available to purchase for siblings too. Forms for this fundraiser have been sent home and slips must be returned by **Tuesday 8th December**. Children will bring home their gifts from 14th December. **ALL** forms to be returned in sealed and clearly marked envelopes. Correct change only please.

Flu Vaccination

Many of our children had the nasal flu immunisation at school this week. I have had a few parents ask about catch up clinics as they didn't have their child vaccinated at school. Please find the details below.

If your child is in Reception to Year 7 and missed this opportunity to be vaccinated and you would like your child to receive the vaccine please contact us to book an appointment at one of our community catch up clinics. To book an appointment please contact our 0-19 Admin hub on **0800 170 7055 (option 4)**. Please visit [NHS flu vaccine information](#) for further advice about the vaccination programme.



TIER 2 HIGH ALERT

FROM 2 DEC

MEETING FRIENDS AND FAMILY  <p>No mixing of households indoors, apart from support bubbles. Maximum of six outdoors.</p>	BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS  <p>Pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants. Hospitality venues can only serve alcohol with substantial meals. Venues must stop taking orders at 10pm and must close by 11pm.</p>	RETAIL  <p>Open.</p>	WORK AND BUSINESS  <p>Everyone who can work from home should do so.</p>
EDUCATION  <p>Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities open. Childcare, other supervised activities for children, and childcare bubbles permitted.</p>	INDOOR LEISURE  <p>Open.</p>	ACCOMMODATION  <p>Open.</p>	PERSONAL CARE  <p>Open.</p>
OVERNIGHT STAYS  <p>Permitted with household or support bubble.</p>	WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS  <p>15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships, wedding receptions and wakes; 30 for funerals.</p>	ENTERTAINMENT  <p>Open.</p>	PLACES OF WORSHIP  <p>Open, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble.</p>
TRAVELLING  <p>Reduce the number of journeys you make and walk or cycle if possible. Avoid busy times and routes on public transport. Avoid car sharing with those outside of your household or support bubble. Avoid entering a Tier 3 area, other than where necessary such as for work or education. Further exemptions apply.</p>	EXERCISE  <p>Classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors, but cannot take place indoors if there is any interaction between people from different households. Organised activities for elite athletes, under-18s and disabled people can continue.</p>	RESIDENTIAL CARE  <p>COVID-secure arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, and window visits. Outdoor/airtight visits only (rollout of rapid testing will enable indoor visits including contact).</p>	LARGE EVENTS  <p>Sport, live performances and business meetings limited to 50% capacity or 2000 people outdoors (whichever is lower) and 50% capacity or 1000 people indoors (whichever is lower)</p>

Find out what support you can get

For example, if you're out of work, need to get food, or want to take care of your mental health.

[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

If you have any coronavirus symptoms:

A high temperature • A new, continuous cough
A loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste.

Get a test and stay at home

For more information and detailed guidance visit:
[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)



Friday 11th December 2020 is Christmas Jumper Day at INIS!



We will be talking to the children about the Save the Children Charity and the work they do to support children around the world. All donations to this event will go to this charity. We will be watching this short video.

[Christmas jumper link for children](#) You can share the video with the children before 11th at Home.



What will you wear? Christmas jumper, Christmas dress, Christmas hat, it's up to you! If you haven't got any Christmas clothes, why not add some tinsel to your clothes.

For more information use this link <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day>

Apply for your Reception place at INIS or your Junior school place for children moving to year three in September by following this link. [Apply for your School place for Sept 2021](#)

Here's some ways to **support our school**: Use the giving machine, <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/> you can sign up to support INIS and get great deals too. Sign up for Your School Lottery, <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/> winners every week and Stamptastic <https://school-checker.stamptastic.co.uk/> Look up our school on these websites and you can get discounts and add some commission to INIS for resources for your child.

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Every Mind Matters

Taking care of your mind as well as your body is really important.

Feeling low? To improve your mood, [learn how to challenge unhelpful thoughts](#).

- Increase helpful activity
- Talk to someone
- Get better sleep
- Be kind to yourself
- Healthy living

For practical tips and advice visit <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/low-mood/>



Start by being kind to yourself!

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](#)