



Irthlingborough Nursery and Infant School

Issue 9 December 2020



Christmas is coming!



We hope that you have been enjoying our countdown to the Christmas holidays with our nightly Christmas stories. They will be available on our website over the whole Christmas period so you can catch up or revisit them at your leisure. [18 days of December link](#)

I would like to thank children, parents and staff for all working hard to keep each other safe and adapt to the changes we have had to put in place. You are an amazing team INIS- thank you! Here's to a brighter 2021!

[Have a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!](#)

[INIS Amazon Wish List](#)

Thank you so much to all those parents who have already added to our carefully chosen curriculum books and books to support positive mental health and wellbeing. I've just added a few new ones which were recommended on a recent online course.

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. If you say it's a gift at check out, you can write a message and say who it is from and we will add this to the book. The books will be shared with your child's class first before they are used with the other year groups, so do involve them in the choice of the book. [INIS Amazon wish list](#)

The magic of Christmas is helping our wishes become a reality!! All these books will be used by the children in school!

Thank you

Food Bank

The Food Bank still 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. Thank you.



Dates for the diary

Up to 18 th December	Christmas stories every day 18 days of December link
Thursday 17 th December	Kingswood Christmas lunch. Book before 9 th December 12 midnight
Thursday 17 th December	PTA mufti day – Children can wear party clothes/Christmas clothes
Thursday 17 th December	Break up for winter break
Tuesday 5 th January	Children return to school
Friday 15 th January 5pm	Final day for Reception and Year Three places for September 2021 Apply for a School Place

Remember if your child starts school in September 2021 you need to have applied by 15th January at 5pm. This also is an important date for those children in Year Two moving to our Junior School. Parents need to apply for the Year Three place. Follow this link for both: [Apply for a School Place](#)

New Reception Zoom Tour

11 th January 2pm Book your Zoom tour	New Reception 2021 virtual Zoom tour
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Join Mrs Marshall, the head teacher for a virtual tour round school. See the school in action and meet some of teachers and TAs.

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

Please be on time or slightly before your Zoom time as these sessions are very short and I don't want parents to miss out.

A Zoom link has been sent out via the Class email. If you haven't had this, please phone the school straight away. 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!

We will do our best to make this work!

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
Nursery	Follow the link for nursery only: https://www.irthlingborough-inf.northants.sch.uk/nursery-2/nursery-christmas-songs

Christmas jumper day- We had a great day last Friday. Thank you for the donations. Once we have counted the donations we will let everyone know how much we raised.



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 Stampastic <https://school-checker.stampastic.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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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](#).

Thursday 17th December- PTA mufti and Christmas party day across school and nursery. Children can wear party clothes or Christmas jumpers/dresses. Party activities will be happening on this day!

Virtual Panto

We have booked a virtual Panto with Peter Duncan for this final week. It will be a little different from having our usual Christmas entertainer but hopefully the children will find it fun! I know I will miss my own annual trip to the theatre to see a Pantomime! Secret Santa presents are coming out soon, if you have ordered them!



Christmas art work !!

Please look out for some of the children's work in the disused new building by the Cross in Irthlingborough. There is a selection of Children's Christmas artwork to brighten up or Town. IJS have created the twelve days of Christmas too! It was a challenge to get the work up on the windows but I hope it all stays up and makes everyone smile!

Just look at this amazing Christmas cheer!!



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.

The Local authority have just sent out £30 vouchers to all our children entitled to Pupil Premium for the Christmas holidays. We are expecting them to do the same in February half term so please check if you could be eligible.

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



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, if your application is approved by 8th January.** This will reduce to £75 after this time and after Easter will be £50. The Pupil premium lasts **for six years even if your work situation changes.**



Call
01604
366656

**Apply
online**



Text 'FSM' followed by your full name, National Insurance Number, your child's name and school name to **60622**

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?



Please ensure that your child only has a book bag and lunch box, if required in school. They do not need additional backpacks or other bags in school as we haven't got room for them in classrooms.

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Goodbye Mrs Matthews

We are saying goodbye to Mrs Matthews after a wonderful 10 years at INIS. Mrs Matthews has decided to focus and spend more time with her family after a period of being unwell. We will miss her greatly and wish her a happy and healthy 2021. She has been fantastic. She is creative, well organised and a brilliant teacher! Thank you Mrs Matthews for all your inspiration particularly for our arts weeks over the years!



When I looked through some of the photos there seemed to be lots of dressing up opportunities for Mrs Matthews and everyone else!! Good luck and keep in touch Mrs Matthews.

Tuesday 12th January 2021- Have a good clear out over Christmas and we will take the things you don't need anymore! We have a company that will collect your unwanted things and will give us some much needed funds in return!

Clothes Recycling

- Clean women's, gents & children's clothing
 - Shorts,
 - Skirts,
 - Blouses,
 - Dresses,
 - Sports,
 - NEW Socks (paired),
 - NEW Tights, Bras, Swimsuit,
 - Trousers & Jeans,
 - T-Shirt & Vest,
 - NEW Underwear,
 - Shirts,
 - Leggings,
 - Nightwear & Sleepwear,
 - Jumpers & Cardigans,
 - Jackets & Coats,
 - Suits,
 - Tops, Knitwear, Jumpers etc.
- Paired shoes (Sandals, Trainers, Slippers etc.) Jewellery, perfumes, cosmetics etc. (None or part used)
- Handbags, Suitcases, Bells, Hats, Accessories, Ties, Gloves, Walkers & Parasols, Watches, Scarves etc.
- Textiles (Towels, Bedding sets of duvet covers, pillow cases and bed sheets, Net Curtains, Tablecloths)
- Souvenirs, unwanted gifts
- Unable toys
- Baby equipment
- Teddy bears
- Soft Toys
- Dolls
- Games
- Console games
- Hard Toys
- Household items (Pictures & Photo frames, Clocks, Cleaning accessories, Candles - (new), Vases, Home Decor items; Sets of Glasses, Cups, Mugs, Cutlery, Jugs, Plates, etc. If you can, please bring them in medium sized cardboard boxes, this will help us with packing for transport.)
- Small electric items (Tablets, Mobile Phones, Hair straighteners/Dryers/Curlers, etc.)
- Books (All kind of adult and children books. The books cannot be damaged or have a bad odor. CD's & DVD's (Must be original and with the cases)

12th January 2021

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Some last reminders

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](#)

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/>



Christmas Holiday Homework

Can you have lots of family fun this holiday?

How many things can you tick off the list?

- Read a Christmas story
- Spend time with your family
- Wear tinsel in your hair
- Eat a mince pie
- Decorate a tree
- Go for a walk and see the Christmas lights on the houses
- Give a present
- Put food out for the reindeers
- Track Santa's journey
- Write a thank you letter
- Sing a Christmas song
- Play a board game
- Make someone laugh
- Wear a silly hat
- Watch a Christmas film
- Pull a cracker
- Go to sleep early on Christmas Eve
- Have a dance to Christmas songs
- Help someone e.g. set or clear the table



Please share your Christmas fun- tweet us @INISNursery, @INISReception, @INISYear1, @INISYear2.

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