



Irthington Village School  
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*Headteacher Lynn Harrison*

7<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! I hope that everyone had a fun filled and relaxing summer break. Welcome also to the children new to school, those starting Nursery and Reception, and to Molly who has joined Year Three.

The first few days have been really good, everyone settling into their new learning environments and learning the routines and class expectations. The Reception children (who look so grown up in their uniforms!) never cease to amaze us with how quickly they settle in.

Before I move onto the term ahead I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and pupils who sent such lovely gifts and cards at the end of the summer term. The messages of support, thanks and gratitude were very much appreciated by all the staff, thank you very much.

We have, as always, a packed and interesting term ahead of us. Our main focus will be India. Each class teacher will write to you in the form of the class newsletter next week. These newsletters will outline the curriculum for the class, offer suggestions of how you can help your child with their learning, explain the daily and weekly routines, such as homework and days for PE etc. As we strive to keep parents as informed as possible, copies of all letters can be found on the school web site, along with other news items, school procedures, term dates and lots and lots of lovely photographs of the things we do in school. We will also be using the Our School App for timely reminders.

If your child travels to school on the school bus for part or the whole week can I ask you to complete the attached timetable? This helps us to compile a register for putting children on the bus at the end of the school day. Should you need to change these arrangements either permanently or just as a one off, please inform school by telephoning via the school office or by sending in a note for the class teacher.

Just a reminder that we use the school field all year round so please can you ensure your child has waterproof trousers and wellies (both named) in school at all times. Also we ask that children bring in their own named water bottle and purse. This makes it easier for your child to identify.

We are going to continue with the Going for Gold pupil target sheets, for children in Reception to Year 6.

This year, when setting the pupil targets we will be targeting the trickier 'End of Year Expectations', such as the lengthy spelling lists, multiplication tables, telling the time, algebra and such like. Where the target involves a spelling list, the list will be divided over the three terms and an end of term assessment will take place. We will send the lists home with your child once the target has been written and it is hoped that you will help your child practise these words. More details will follow in the class newsletters.

Once the bronze target is achieved, a certificate will be awarded at a celebration assembly and the silver target will be issued.

Each class will have a meaningful method of celebrating everyone's achievements.

The celebration assembly is held each Friday. Each teacher chooses a 'star of the week' and I choose someone to receive the Headteacher's Award. These children are presented with a certificate and a cup. They keep the cup for one week returning it the following Friday so that it may be presented to the new recipient. Children who have achieved full marks in their weekly spelling tests and multiplication tables targets also receive a certificate. Other successes are also celebrated as and when they occur.

I have attached a list of dates for your diary. One date to keep free is Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September for the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon in school, 2.30pm onwards. Please bake for the event, and come along and join your child for some delicious refreshments! More details to follow! Details of all other events will be sent out nearer to the time.

As you may already be aware, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to free school meals. The philosophy behind the scheme is to encourage healthy eating from a young age. Unfortunately for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 the cost of school meals has increased to £2.50 per day. For the last 5 or 6 years, the cost of meals has been considerably subsidised from the school budget (20p or 30p per child per day) but unfortunately due to budget restraints we are now unable to do this and hope that you agree that the school budget must be spent on teaching and learning resources. We will continue to subsidise the cost of meals again for 2017 - 2018 but can only afford or justify a 5p per child per day contribution. £2.50 does still represent good value for a hot meal and pudding.

If possible please pay for school meals in advance; the cost for this term will be

weekly £12.50       $\frac{1}{2}$  term £87.50      full term £175.00

Cheques are to be made payable to CCC please and send in to school or alternatively pay via Lunch Shop

Every year we invite parents of Reception children to come into school and have lunch with their child. This is a lovely opportunity to see how things work at school and to see just how confident your children are with our routines. If you would like to come along and have lunch with your child, please complete and return the attached slip with payment (£2.50 per person) to school by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September indicating which day you would like to attend. Please note we are only able to offer 2 places per child.

I have attached a copy of school's Emergency Closure Policy for information for all of our new parents and as a reminder for those who have already received a copy previously.

As always if you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to come in to school at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Lynn Harrison.

Date	Event	Time	Who is involved	Where?
11.9.17 - 16.10.17	Class 3 Swimming	am	Class 3	Morton Pool
22.09.17	PTA Summer Social	6pm-8pm	All children, parents and friends of Irthington Village school.	School
26.09.17	Netball tournament	am	Netball team	WHS
28.9.17	McMillan Coffee Afternoon	2.30pm	Everyone welcome	School
2.10.17	PTA meeting	7pm	All parents	School
4.10.17	Class 1 assembly	9.15am	Parents and family of children in Class 1.	School
5.10.17	Governors meeting	7.00pm	Governors	School
9&11.10.17	Reception parents to lunch	11.45am	Parents of Reception children	School
10.10.17	Class 2 assembly	3pm	Parents and family of children in Class 2.	School
17.10.17	Harvest Festival	2.30pm	Everyone welcome	TBC
20.10.17	Finish for half term	3.30pm		
30.10.17	School reopens	8.50am		
8.11.17	Class 3 assembly	9.15am	Parents and family of children in Class 3.	School
6.12.17	Class 2 Christmas Play	2.30pm 6.30pm	Parents and family of children in Class 2.	School
7.12.17	Class 3 Christmas Play	2.30pm 7.00pm	Parents and family of children in Class 3.	School
8.12.17	Children's' Christmas Party	afternoon	All children	School
12.12.17	Class One Nativity and whole school carol concert	2.30pm	All children and parents	Church (TBC)
15.12.17	Finish for Christmas	2pm		
4.1.18	School opens for spring term	8.50pm		

Travelling on the school bus

Name of child/ren .....

	Travelling to school	Travelling home
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		

Signed ..... Date .....

**Parents of Reception children only**

I am able to attend for school lunch on

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October / Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October (please delete)

Parent of .....

I would like to reserve ..... seats. I enclose payment of £2.50 per person.

Signed ..... Date .....