



# Friday Flyer – 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Welcome back, we hope that you all have had a peaceful Christmas and some family time together. From listening to the children, Santa was very good to everyone. Thank you for all the lovely Christmas messages, cards and gifts received by our staff.

We look forward to working with you throughout 2026.

## Health and Safety in Winter Weather

What a wintry start to the new term! Thank you all for your patience and understanding with regard to our delayed start today: this allowed our staff members, a number of whom live some distance away, the time to come into school safely.

At this time of the year, the weather can be unpredictable, as we have experienced today. I would ask you to remind your children daily to bring their warm, waterproof winter coats/hats/gloves (clearly named) etc to school so that they remain warm when playing outdoors at break and dinner time. We always try to do a risk assessment on the safety of the different school areas, especially before outdoor play. Even with that, accidents can happen. I would ask you to remind your children to be mindful of safety when playing and running outside, especially in the wintertime.

## After School Clubs

The following after school clubs will start the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

If you would like your child to participate in any of the clubs, please either follow the link to book a session or book on Arbor. Here is a reminder of what we have on offer:

Wednesday 12.30 – 1.00	Spanish Lessons all ages	<a href="mailto:maria.carrera@kidslingo.co.uk">maria.carrera@kidslingo.co.uk</a>
Wednesday 3.15 – 4.15pm	Multi Sports Year 1/2	Please book on Arbor
Friday 3.15-4.00pm	Choir Year 2 upwards	<a href="mailto:spotlightsinging@outlook.com">spotlightsinging@outlook.com</a>

## PE Lessons Next Term.

Just a reminder that we have changed some of the PE days in school this term, please see below:

<b>Willow</b>	<b>Wednesday and Friday</b>
<b>Maple</b>	<b>Tuesday and Thursday</b>
<b>Birch</b>	<b>Tuesday and Friday</b>
<b>Oak</b>	<b>Monday and Wednesday</b>

**Please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform:**

White t-shirt,

Black, navy or royal blue shorts/skort.

Black, navy or royal blue hoodies or sweatshirts.

Black, navy or royal blue leggings/joggers – no slogans and no non-school colours.

Trainers are needed for outdoor PE.

### **Come as You Are!**

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February we would like to invite the children to come into school dressed in whatever makes them feel comfortable (within reason!). This is to help celebrate Mental Health Week, beginning on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

### **KS2 Parents Maths Meeting in School and On-Line**

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February we would like to invite the parents/carers of KS2 children to a Maths information meeting - either in school during the afternoon or on-line after school. Further details will be sent home shortly.

### **Parking Outside School**

A reminder to please be considerate when parking outside school – we have some families and neighbours who need clear access and parking should not obstruct any drives.

Can we also ask parents not to park on the grass verges, or in front of the school gates and to be vigilant during the morning and after school when children are walking to school.

### **Parent Governor**

We have a vacancy for the position of Parent Governor on the school's Local Governing Committee.

Parent Governors are elected by parents, so anyone wishing to stand for election should contact the school office in the first instance.

Parents play a vital role in bringing a parental perspective to the governing board but are not there to speak 'on behalf' of the parent body.

**If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor, please contact the school for further information.**

### **Parent Involvement**

We are always looking for ways to enrich our pupils' experiences and to ensure that our school community reflects and celebrates the diversity of the world around us. With this in mind, we are inviting parents and carers who may be interested in supporting us in one (or both) of the following ways:



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## **Diversity and Inclusion Group**

Prompted by suggestions that were made in our parents' surveys, we are thinking of setting up a small diversity and inclusion group, made up of school staff and parent representatives, to help us reflect on our practice, share ideas and support our ongoing work in this important area. This group will perhaps meet two or three times throughout the school year, and no prior experience is needed – just an interest in helping our school be a welcoming, inclusive place for everyone.

## **Inspiring Guest Speakers**

We are also keen to welcome parents and carers into school as guest speakers to share inspiring stories with our pupils. This might include sporting achievements, personal challenges you have overcome, community involvement, career journeys or other experiences that could motivate and inspire our children. These talks would be age-appropriate and arranged at mutually convenient times.

If you would be interested in volunteering for either the diversity and inclusion group or as a guest speaker (or both), we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school office, letting us know how you might like to be involved.

## **Admission to Reception 2026**

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, they are due to start school in September 2026.

**Applying for a school place** You must apply for a primary/infant school place for your child to start Reception Year.

- Applications for Reception Year places in September 2026 open on 1 September 2025.
- **The national closing date for applications is 15 January 2026 - the good news is that there are still places available here at Ullesthorpe for new starters to join us in September.**
- The national offer date for on-time Reception Year applications is 16 April 2026.

**Making an application** To apply for a school place please visit:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools-colleges-and-academies/apply-for-a-school-place>

Please see Diary dates below:

### **Diary Dates 2026**

<b>Diary Dates</b>	
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Height and Weight Reception & Year 6
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 5 Lutterworth High School Matinee
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Young Voices performance in Birmingham
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Celebration Assembly 9.05am - parents welcome
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Mental Health Week
2nd - 6th February	Year 6 Assessment Week
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Come as you are Day
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	KS2 Parents Maths Meeting in person and Online 2-7pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Celebration Assembly 9:05am - parents welcome
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026	School Open

<b>Academic Calendar 2026</b>	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January- Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Spring Term
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Spring Term
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Summer Term
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June – Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Term
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July – Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> August	Summer Holiday.

## **Attendance**

**Can we remind parents to contact the school office before 9.30am if your child is going to be absent so that we can mark the register accordingly.**

If we do not know the reason why a pupil is absent, then this will be marked as an unauthorised absence and we may have to raise a safeguarding concern also. Please contact school via phone or email at

[ullesthorpe@ipat.uk](mailto:ullesthorpe@ipat.uk)



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**GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS BEING IN SCHOOL AT LEAST 95% OF THE TIME (180 – 190 DAYS).**

**There are 175 non-school days per academic year for family time, visits, holidays and shopping.**

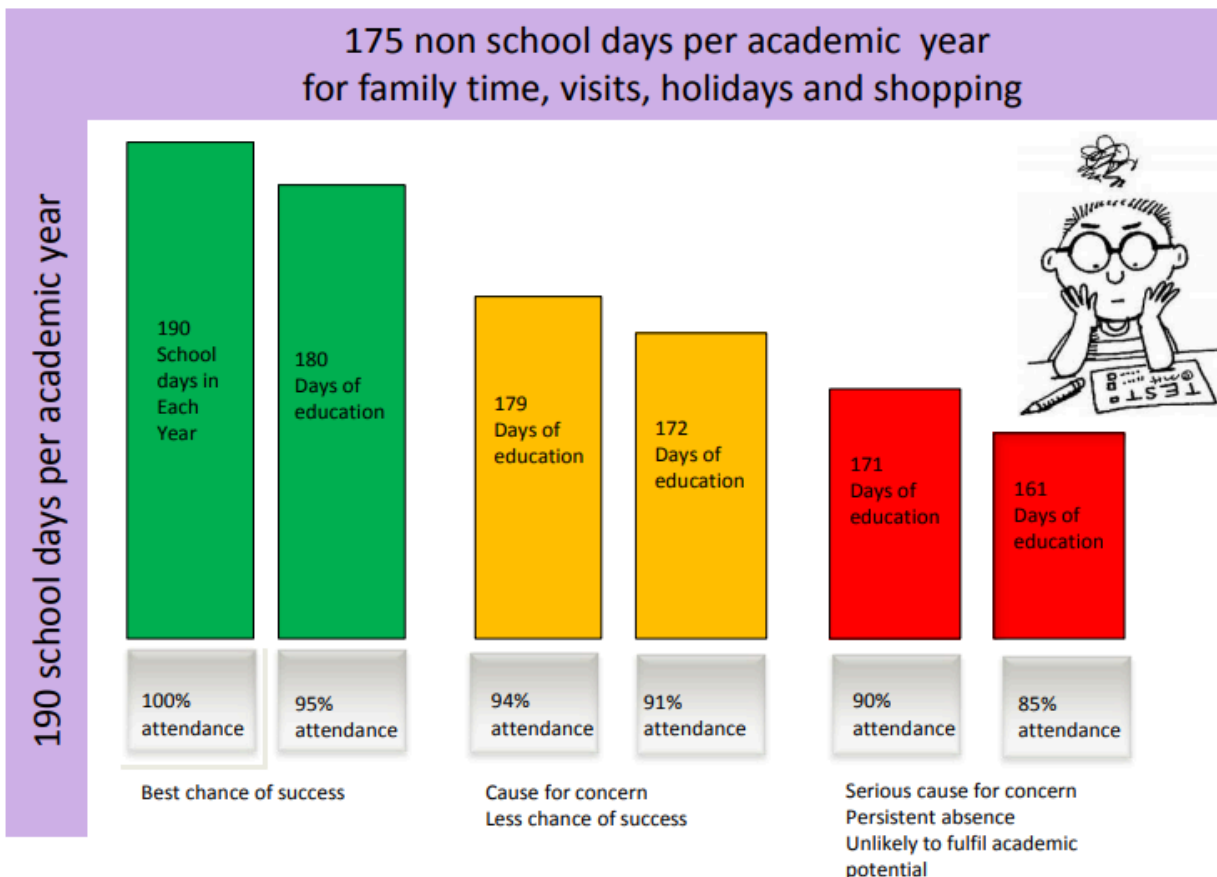
## **What the government says about school attendance:**

At KS2, pupils who attend school nearly every day in year 6 (with an attendance rate of 95-100%) were 1.3 times more likely to achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, compared to pupils who only attend 90-95% of the time. **This means missing just 10 days of year 6 reduces the likelihood of reaching the expected standard by around 25%.**

Pupils who attend everyday are 1.8 times more likely to achieve the standard than persistently absent pupils who only attend 80 – 90% of the time (relating to 4-6 weeks more time in school).

DFR Report. Link between attendance and attainment:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/link-between-attendance-and-attainment?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm\\_source=e6e8cd73-0c3d-4532-b222-35984e1d594f&utm\\_content=daily](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/link-between-attendance-and-attainment?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=e6e8cd73-0c3d-4532-b222-35984e1d594f&utm_content=daily)



## **Safeguarding**

**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.** If you have concerns about the welfare of any child, then you have a responsibility to call the First Response Children's Duty Team on 0116 305 0005.

Further advice/ support on this can be obtained from our Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Allen, Mrs McMurrin or Mr Gray.



**No nuts or sesame seeds please - thank you for helping us to keep all of our children safe and well**