

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas Singing

Well done to our amazing choir who sang so brilliantly at Saturday's Christmas event in Ashby! Everyone was singing and clapping along! Thank you to Miss Bloor for braving the cold to conduct the children...they all did us proud!! Thank you also to all the parents and staff who came along to support the children.



EYFS and Year 1 Christmas Nativity

Children in EYFS and Year 1 have been practising hard and as I write this, Miss Bloor and Mrs Pacey are busy doing the final edit of their show 'The Big Little Nativity'. We are looking forward to sharing the performance with

you....although we are sad that we will not be able to invite parents into school so see it 'live' we know that you will enjoy watching the children together at home!



Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Jumper Day was held today to raise money for Save the Children. The children looked amazing in their festive jumpers thank you for your generous donations, we raised £194.26 for Save the Children, a wonderful charity.



Warm Clothes

In the last week or so the weather has turned much colder. Please make sure that your child has a warm waterproof coat in school and that they have extra layers, particularly on PE days when the children wear their PE kit to school.

Ready Steady Stick Christingle Party

Why not join the Ready Steady Stick Christmas party at Measham Church Hall on Saturday December 11th from 2.00pm to 4.00pm There will be games, crafts, food and fun for all, (and a surprise!) All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Cost £1 per child. Please book your place by contacting Rev'd Wilma on 07766306227 or email revwilmacolley@gmail.com

Parking

As you already know, Ashby Road is very congested at the start and end of the day when parents are collecting their children. We have concerns about the safety of our children walking to school due to drivers parking on the pavement, blocking drives and parking on the white or zig-zagged lines.

I know that you all lead very busy lives, but if you were able to park further away from the school gates and walk a little further to collect your children, it would be much safer for everyone. Thank you in advance.

Covid cases in school

We now have a number of confirmed positive cases of coronavirus amongst the children across the school.

If your child has symptoms they *must* get a PCR test and isolate until they get the result.

As you are aware, the main Covid symptoms are:

- New, continuous cough
- High temperature
- Loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste.

However, other symptoms we have seen in school include:

- Extreme Fatigue
- Myalgia (Muscle ache)
- Sore throat
- Shortness of Breath
- Severe persistent headache lasting >24 hours
- Diarrhoea/upset tummy

If your child is identified as a close contact via NHS Test and Trace, you should book a PCR. Children do not have to isolate unless the PCR test comes back positive or unless the Omicron variant is detected.

Following advice from the LA, we are now also asking that all pupils and staff who have a positive household member, take daily LFDs for the duration of the household member's isolation.

Thank you in advance for helping to keep our school community safe for Christmas.

End of Key Stage SATS

SATs week for our current Year 6 children will take place in the week beginning Monday 9th May 2022. National testing for Year 2 children will take place during the month of May 2022. We will be sharing information regarding testing arrangements for Year 6 and Year 2 later on in the school year.

Apply for a School Place – Primary

Is your child due to start school in September 2022? The deadline for applying for a Primary School place is **15th January 2022**. To make your application please click the link below:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools-colleges-and-academies/school-admissions>

If you need any further information, please contact the Admissions team on admissions@leics.gov.uk or 0116 305 6684.

Sad Goodbye

Finally, I wanted to make you aware that Mrs Hill, our wonderful Year 6 LSA will be leaving us at the end of term. Mrs Hill joined the Donisthorpe team in 2011 as a volunteer and after training as an LSA she has supported classes across the school but has spent the last few years supporting in Year 6. She has been offered a post at Ashby School as an English Tutor, where she can further pursue her love of reading and books. We will be so sorry to see her leave but I am sure that you will join me in thanking her for her hard work and wishing her every success in the future.

This will be my last newsletter of 2021; Donisthorpe Primary School continues to go from strength to strength, despite the challenges that the pandemic continues to throw at us! We have the most amazing children, dedicated and talented staff, supportive parents and we are blessed to be situated in a great community! Thank you to you all for your support in 2021, we are already looking forward to a spectacular 2022!

Regards,



Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher