

Dear Parents and Carers,

Remembrance

This week the children have been reflecting on Remembrance- in class, children have learned about the events that led up to the war and thought about all those who have fought and died so that we may live freely today; they have thought about why we wear poppies and have decorated the school and their classrooms. On Thursday the school gathered in the playground to show their respect with a two minutes silence, followed by the Last Post. The children were a credit to their parents and to the school- with even our youngest children joining in. We sold out of Poppies this year- all the monies raised going directly to the British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thank you for your donations.



Children in Need- Friday 19th November

To help raise money for this fantastic cause, we would like all children to come to school dressed in spots, stripes or brights! They could even wear a combination of all three!!! Please bring a cash donation (Minimum £1). Thank you for your continued support. The children will be collecting your donations on the door on Friday morning!



Christmas Celebrations!

With only just over five weeks to go until the end of term, our thoughts are very much on celebrating Christmas with the children. Traditionally at Donisthorpe we have performed a Christmas Service at St John's Church in Donisthorpe with children from Year 2 to Year 6 and a Nativity play with children in EYFS and Year 1. These are wonderful experiences for children and adults alike and we are looking forward to being able to return to them safely.



We are still planning to invite parents to these events, however it is very important to us that our families are able to enjoy their Christmas without running the risk of contracting Covid-19 a few days beforehand.

We will make a final decision based on the number of positive Covid cases within the school community nearer the time. We may limit parent numbers or ask the audience to wear a mask, but we are hopeful that these events will go ahead as planned and as near to normal as possible.



Parking Concerns

As you already know, Ashby Road is very congested at the end of the day when parents are collecting their children. We all want to keep our children safe, so here are some top tips on how you can make a difference.

How Can You Help?

- ✓ Keep your speed down
- ✓ Turn your engine off if leaving your vehicle
- ✓ Leave the middle of the road free, with enough room for other road users to easily pass through
- ✓ Make sure your child leaves and enters your vehicle safely onto the pavement
- ✓ Check for pedestrians and cyclists before opening a car door
- ✓ Leave enough room on pavements for pedestrians to get past

- ✓ Take care when reversing

Please Keep Clear...

- ✓ Zig Zags and School Entrances
- ✓ Dropped Kerbs
- ✓ Resident's Driveways
- ✓ Opposite or within 10 meters of a junction- so that children can see cars and cars can see children

Please park considerately around our school and keep our children safe!

Have you considered...

- Parking further away from school and walking
- Walking or cycling to school instead? This is a great way to contribute to a child's 60 minutes of activity a day and is easy to incorporate into your daily routine. Try it once a week at first and see how easy it can be.

I know that you all lead very busy lives, but if we all work together it will be much safer for everyone.

Colder Weather

As you know the British weather can be very changeable so even if the forecast looks mild for the day, we can sometimes have four seasons in one day! As it is now well and truly autumn, please make sure that your children **bring a coat to school every day** so that we can take the learning outside- whatever the weather!

Parental Supervision

If you are on site before the doors open in the morning, please can we ask that you do not allow the children to play in the school's front garden. You must supervise your children at all times.

Are you entitled to free afterschool clubs, school trips, milk and school lunches?

Children of families in receipt of certain benefits may be eligible for additional funding – Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) - which we can use to provide free clubs, trips, milk and lunches for your child. Even if you don't wish to take advantage of any of these, school can still claim much-needed funding for those who are eligible. Under current rules the funding lasts for 6 years, even if your circumstances change in that time. If you have not already applied, or if your circumstances have changed recently, we would encourage you to check eligibility and apply online. Please contact the school office for more details.

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.

Covid

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

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

During this time, we continue to have the following control measures in place:

- Ensuring good hygiene for everyone
- Maintaining thorough cleaning regimes
- Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated

We would encourage parents with any concerns to book a PCR test for their child.

If you have any questions about this or anything else, please telephone school or email office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk

Regards,



Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

Diary Dates		
Wednesday 17th November	Year 5/6 Tag Rugby Final	PM
Friday 19th November	Children In Need (spots/stripes/brights)	
Tuesday 30th November	Year 5/6 Dodgeball	3.30pm-5.30pm
Thursday 2nd December	Year 5 Cadbury World	All Day
Friday 3rd December	School closed in lieu of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday	
Thursday 9th December	EYFS & Year 1 Nativity	1.30pm
Thursday 9th December	EYFS & Year 1 Nativity	6.00pm
Friday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day	
Tuesday 14th December	Year 2 & KS2 Christmas at Donisthorpe Church	AM
Wednesday 15th December	Festive Hot Box Lunch	
Thursday 16th December	Pantomime (Cinderella) funded by the PTFA	PM
Friday 17th December	School Closes for Christmas	3.10pm
Tuesday 4th January	School Re-opens	8.35am