



Donisthorpe News

Friday 13th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Coronavirus Update

You will have seen in the media the Government's decision to move to the delay phase of the Coronavirus action plan.

At Donisthorpe Primary School we take the health and safety of our pupils and staff very seriously, so we're sharing guidance from Public Health England on steps you should be taking. Current guidelines state that you should stay at home if you have coronavirus symptoms. This means that you should:

Stay at home for 7 days if you have either:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough

You should not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

Tips for staying at home- It's important to stay at home to stop coronavirus spreading.

Do:

- Try to keep at least 2 metres (3 steps) from other people in your home, particularly older people or those with long-term health conditions
- Ask friends and family and delivery services to deliver things like food shopping and medicines – but avoid contact with them
- Sleep alone if possible
- Regularly wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- Try to stay away from older people and those with long-term health conditions
- Drink plenty of water and take everyday painkillers, such as paracetamol and ibuprofen, to help with your symptoms
- Do not have visitors (ask people to leave deliveries outside)
- Do not leave the house, for example to go for a walk, to school or public places

This advice applies to all Donisthorpe Primary School **pupils** and **staff**. There is currently no blanket decision to close UK schools, however this new advice may have an impact on staffing levels in the coming weeks. The decision to close the school due to availability of staff will never be taken lightly, our priority remains ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of staff, pupils, parents and visitors to the site. If some staff are absent due to the symptoms listed above, we will endeavour to remain open, however we need at least 70% of staff to attend each day in order to remain open. If a decision to close is made we will notify you via text, twitter, Facebook and on our website.

Attendance

Where a pupil is in self-isolation, in accordance with latest information and advice from Department of Health and Social Care and Public Health England, the pupil will be recorded as unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances in the attendance register. If your son/daughter is in self isolation, we will be sensitive to a parent's decision to keep any siblings at home. This will also be recorded as exceptional circumstances in the attendance register.

What are we doing to prevent the spread of infection at Donisthorpe Primary School?

- Reminding everyone to wash their hands often– with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or an alcohol-base sanitizer if soap and water if not available
- Reminding everyone to avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Reminding everyone to cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin
- Cleaning and disinfecting daily any frequently touched objects and surfaces at school
- Encouraging children and staff to stay at home and to not attend school if they feel unwell
- Contacting parents if children are displaying any symptoms in school

In the coming weeks we may also decide to:

- Cancel whole school assemblies to reduce numbers of children gathering in one place
- Cancel or postpone forthcoming events and trips

We will keep you informed of any further changes we make.

What happens if school is closed?

In the event of closure, we will be setting work for the children to complete. This will be accessed from our school website and will include:

- Links to Times Table Rock Stars- to practise times tables
- Links to My Maths – an online resource for maths
- Links to Spelling Shed- to practise spellings
- Links to Twinkl- an online resource base with resources for maths/English and other curriculum areas
- Links to Purple Mash- an online resource base with resources for maths/English and other curriculum areas
- Links to BBC Bitesize
- We will be encouraging children to read widely and will send home additional reading books
- In addition, we will be uploading specific work for each year group on a Monday and each year group will be given a project to complete.

More information will be made available for parents if a decision to close the school is made. As always, if you have any questions or queries, do not hesitate to talk to me or to your child's class teacher.

In other news...



Sports Relief

The children looked amazing today dressed in their sportswear. We have raised an amazing £180 for this brilliant cause. Thank you all so much for your donations.



World Book Day

This year's World Book Day on Thursday 5th March was a huge success! Children came dressed ready for a bedtime story in their pyjamas and we had a whole day of reading planned! The children enjoyed 'Stop, Drop and Read'! Thank you all so much to all those parents who took the time to email in their positive feedback about the day.



Contact Information

Please remember to regularly update the school office in writing if there are any changes to the people on your contact list who have permission to collect your child from school. For more information about our school, please visit www.donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk or find us on Facebook.

As always, if you have any questions or queries, do not hesitate to talk to me or to your child's class teacher.

Sylvie Newman **Executive Headteacher**