

Donisthorpe Primary School Newsletter

Friday 14th October

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy few weeks at school, the children have been hard at work in class and have been enjoying lovely playtimes with their friends. The first week back after half term is our Week of Culture and we will be starting with a 'bang' as we have a day of Indian Drumming on Monday 24th October. The week will end with an Open Classroom on Friday 28th October so that the children can share their learning with you! Classrooms will be open from 2.45pm to 3.30pm we look forward to seeing you all there!

Phonics Workshop

Recently we held a Phonics Workshop for EYFS parents. Visitors listened to a short talk from Miss Bloor (EYFS Teacher) about phonics and how it is taught, and there were lots of ideas about how parents can support their children with their reading and spelling. The children joined us in the hall and really enjoyed showing their parents how to play the phonic games and activities that they use in the classroom.



Reading Workshop

On Tuesday 4th October, we held a Reading Workshop for parents. The aim of the evening was to familiarise parents with some of the ways in which we teach key skills in reading and to give advice on how parents can support at home. The evening had information relevant for parents of children in all year groups and feedback from was excellent; they all found the session really useful and left feeling better equipped to support their children with reading at school.

Harvest Festival

On Thursday 6th October we held our Harvest Festival in school, it was such a lovely event. This year's celebration involved EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children; they sang and spoke so well- we were all so proud of them! It was so lovely to have a live audience of parents in school too! We collected lots of donations of food for the Marlene Reid Centre in Coalville, thank you to everyone who gave so generously.



Parents Evening

Parents evenings this week have been really well attended. We are aiming to speak to all of our parents, so please do get in touch with your child's class teacher if you were unable to make an appointment and would like to speak to them about your child's progress.

Forthcoming PTFA events

We held our PTFA AGM on Monday 3rd October and I am delighted to say that the new Co-chairs are Sarah Waldron and Annie Cartwright, they can be contacted via the Donisthorpe PTFA Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/240850922733397/> -but please remember that by being a parent at Donisthorpe Primary School you are automatically a member of the PTFA! The PTFA have lots of exciting events planned for the year! Below are the Autumn term events:

	Halloween Dress Up Day "Give what you can"	Monday 31st October
	Bag2School Clothing Collection Donation bags will be sent home prior to the collection	Monday 7th November
	Christmas Card Orders Children will design the cards in school and they will be sent home for you to order	By 11 th November
	Christmas Disco with Santa	Friday 9th December
	Hot Chocolate in the playground with the choir singing	Date TBC
	Christmas themed Break the Rules Day	Friday 16th December

Fond Farewell

This week we say a very sad goodbye to two of our wonderful lunchtime supervisors. Mrs Goodhead has been with us for nearly 20 years, but has decided to move onto pastures new and Mr Heighten feels that the time is right for a new adventure. I would like to thank them both for all of their hard work during their time at Donisthorpe and wish them all the best in the future.

Apply for a School Place

Secondary

It is fast approaching the time when Year 6 parents need to apply for secondary school places for their children. I want to stress again the importance of **applying for three schools**. Last year, some children were left without a secondary school place on offer day as parents had only listed one school. Secondary admissions closing date is 31st October, and national offer date 1st March (or next working day).



Primary

The deadline for applying for a Primary School place is **15th January 2023**.



New EYFS parents (2023 intake) Open Evening

Do you have a child who is due to start school in September 2023? Choosing your child's school is an important decision. This evening is aimed at giving new parents as much information as possible in order to help them make the right decision. Our Open Evening will take place on **Tuesday 1st November 2022 at 6.30pm**. There will be a short presentation followed by a chance to tour our amazing EYFS base and talk informally to staff. We will be advertising this event locally, but if you or someone you know is interested in attending, they can book a place by contacting the school office.

For both applications, the simplest way is online at: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools-colleges-and-academies/school-admissions>

If you have any questions, please phone school or email office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk

Regards,



Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

Dairy Dates Autumn 2022		
Date	Event/Year Group	Time
Half Term- School reopens Monday 24 October		
Monday 24 October	Week of Culture	All week
Friday 28 October	Whole school open classroom	2.45pm to 3.30pm
Monday 31 October	Year 6 Wales Residential	
Tuesday 1 November	New EYFS Parent meeting (Sept 2023 Start)	6.30pm to 7.30pm
Thursday 3 November	EYFS Parent Lunch	11.45am to 1.00pm
Thursday 3 November	Year 5/6 Forest School	All day
Friday 4 November	Year 5/6 Forest School	All day
Friday 18 November	Children in Need - more details to follow!	All day
Thursday 8 December	EYFS and Year 1 Nativity	2.00pm 6.00pm
Monday 12 December	Christmas Celebration Festival at St John's Church- Year's 2/3/4/5/6	9.30am
Thursday 15 December	Christmas Lunch	
Friday 16 December	Pantomime	
End of Autumn Term- School reopens on Tuesday 2 January		