



Donisthorpe News

Wednesday 1st April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you are all well and have managed to get outside as a family while the sun has been shining. I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during these challenging times. Remember to make time to rest and enjoy some games and activities too...as time goes by we will all begin to settle into this new routine.



Seesaw- keeping in touch

Emails were sent out last week with QR codes and instructions on how your child can access their class Seesaw. (Seesaw is available online at web.seesaw.me and as an app on most devices) This is a great way for your child to stay in touch with their class teacher and find out what their friends have been up to. Teachers have enjoyed seeing posts so far, including some great art work, positive news stories

and even videos from children talking us through their day! The idea is that children can post a few times per week (if they wish) to show their teacher what they've been up to - this might be work completed, activities they are using to pass the time with family or just a message to say hello and let us know how they are doing. Teachers will be checking Seesaw at least twice a week to see what children are up to for as long as they are well and are able to. We look forward to hearing from you!



Over the next few days and weeks we may also give you a call, just to check that you are ok; please do not be alarmed if we call you it might just be that we haven't heard from you during the period of closure by one means or another.

Home Learning

Remember to check the website weekly for updated activities that have been set by your child's teacher. We are updating the tasks on our website, but this is just a guide...there is so much out there online, I suggest that you use what you can and don't try to do it all. The current Home Learning resources we have provided should last until **Friday 3rd April**. New resources will appear on **Monday 20th April**. We expect you and your child to take an Easter Break as you would normally. Please do not feel under pressure to work during this time.

Key Worker Children

Donisthorpe has in place **emergency** supervised childcare for a small number of children whose parents are mainly NHS workers and have no other form of childcare. I would like to thank all of you who are key workers who have found other ways of looking after your children, your support is greatly appreciated.

Free School Meal families

The government has launched a national voucher scheme for FSM families and those families affected will be contacted shortly with further information. As an interim measure for our FSM families, we will be offering Coop vouchers which will be sent out over the next few days. As you can appreciate supermarkets are under immense pressure from schools to issue vouchers and delivery of these is taking longer than originally thought but please be assured that we will get these vouchers to you as quickly as we can.

Safeguarding Concerns during School Closure

We are working hard as a school to do everything we reasonably can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our children, whilst they are not in school. I am sure you will appreciate that there are limits to this during these unprecedented times.

We would therefore recommend that you:

- Monitor closely your child's activity on social media.
- If your child is being seriously abused online, contact the police.
- Let us know if there have been any issues that we need to be aware of as soon as possible so we can respond promptly and appropriately when school reopens. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to respond to emails out of school hours. However, we will be monitoring the slt@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk during this period of school closure.
- Contact Social Services if you feel they should be aware of an issue. You can call the Social Services Central Duty Team on 0116 305 0005 or make an online referral via the following link: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/community-safety/reportabuse-or-neglect-of-a-child>
- Contact the police straight away if you believe a child is in immediate danger.

And finally, please remember to regularly look at our website for further updates during these ever-changing times. We plan to keep you all up to date (but hopefully not overwhelmed) with information. Our community has rallied brilliantly so far - thank you for all your support and kind words. I wish you and your family well until our next update.

Look after yourselves and STAY AT HOME. Take care, we will keep in touch!

Regards,



Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

