

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is my last email before the Easter break and even though the children have not been back at school for very long they have worked so hard and definitely seem ready for a holiday! It will take the children a while to get back into routine as they are out of the habit of getting up for school each day...this is where we really get to develop our resilience character muscles!!

We recommend the usual for this, plenty of sleep, drink lots of water, eat a healthy diet and try not to spend too much time after school on electronic devices- is always good to plug in devices over night outside bedrooms, so that children get an undisturbed night's sleep.

Road Map to Normality

The government's 'road map' suggests that social restrictions will end on 21st June; the next stages over the months to come will be welcomed by all of us I'm sure, but this has made me think about when school will be able to fully return to normal.

Some of things I have missed the most in school during this period of restriction have been seeing the older children supporting the younger ones at playtimes, gathering the whole school together for assemblies, being able to invite parents into school to see the children's wonderful hard work in books, being able to take the children on trips and residential visits...and obviously school dinners...my list could go on!

However, we need to be prepared that school will not be able to 'flick a switch' and go back to the way that things were pre Covid, indications are that wearing masks and social distancing will be with us for some time to come. I expect that there will be further guidelines from government as the summer term progresses but I am preparing myself for the fact that it may be some time before the school community will be able to be truly back together. Until then, we will ensure that the children experience as much as they can within the current guidelines, even if this means that we have to do things like Year 6 leavers events in a slightly different way. As always we will keep parents informed when we know more.

Red Nose Day

Thank you all so much for your kind donations for Red Nose Day. The children had a brilliant day and we raised an amazing £XXXXX for this wonderful cause!

Eye Checks



As the children have been spending additional time on computers learning remotely recently, I was reflecting on the possible impact that this could have on children's eyesight. During the Easter break it might be a good time to visit an optician if you have any concerns about your children's eye sight, particularly if your child has not had a check-up for a while.

Rotary Club Awards

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Parents Evening/Mid-Year reports

Although we have only recently reopened the school to all children, we would like to offer parents an opportunity to discuss the progress that your child is making.

We will send home your child's mid-year report on Wednesday 21st April and will be offering a 'Zoom' Parents meeting with your child's class teacher on Tuesday 27th April or Thursday 29th April to opportunity to discuss the report and ask any questions you may have. These meetings will have the usual allocated time of 10 minutes. A separate letter will follow after Easter with more information on how to book your appointment.

Please see information below from Leicestershire Local Authority about the use of Lateral flow tests with children:

- **Lateral flow tests are not suitable for use on young children.** Primary aged children are not included in the mass asymptomatic testing programme; only secondary and college age pupils, along with their families should be taking lateral flow tests twice a week.
- Families who have access to LFD tests must be very clear that these are only to be used for **regular testing where no one is suspected of having Covid-19**. The purpose of these tests is to spot cases in the community that we wouldn't otherwise have known about.
- Families should not use these tests on themselves or their children if they have symptoms. **A PCR test at a national testing centre must be booked where infection is suspected.** A lateral flow test could fail to spot someone who is just developing an infection but a PCR test will not. Having symptoms, getting a negative LFT result and assuming you are virus free could result in you spreading the virus to others.
- To book a PCR test, visit: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Changes to collection arrangements

Please let the school office know if there are any changes to your collection arrangements, either by telephone or via email office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk

PE Kit

There are still some children in school on PE days, not wearing the correct PE uniform. Please contact school if you have any questions about the PE kit.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Regards,



Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

Friday 26th March	School closes for Easter	
Saturday 10th April	PTFA Magic Show- online event	4.00pm
Monday 12th April	School reopens for Summer term	
Wednesday 21st April	Mid-year reports sent home	
Tuesday 27th April	Parents Evening via Zoom	3.30pm to 7.00pm
Thursday 29th April	Parents Evening via Zoom	3.30pm to 7.00pm
Monday 3rd May	School closed May Bank Holiday	
Friday 28th May	School closed for half term	
Monday 7th June	School reopens	
Friday 9th July	School closed for Summer holidays	
Wednesday 25th August	School reopens for Autumn Term	
Monday 30th August	School closed for Bank Holiday	