

Donisthorpe Primary School Newsletter

Friday 2nd September

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! This is the first newsletter of the new academic year here at Donisthorpe. I trust that you had a lovely summer break and enjoyed the warm weather we have had during the summer!

It is wonderful to see the children back at school, smiling and as excited as we all are for the year ahead. The children have been absolutely amazing this week and have very much enjoyed time in their classes, lunch in the hall, whole school assemblies and play times.

I would like to say a very warm welcome to our new children and their families; we have also had some new children starting in Key Stage 2 as well as the 30 new children beginning their Donisthorpe journey in EYFS this year.

Uniform

A huge thank you to all of our parents and carers, all the children have looked smart and ready to learn in their uniforms.

On outdoor PE days we ask that the children come to school in their correct outdoor PE kit- please see a member of SLT if you are having difficulty sourcing a black/navy hoodie.



Symphony Learning Trust

We had a really exciting morning yesterday- you may have noticed the balloons arriving at school when you dropped off the children! We have not officially joined Symphony Learning Trust and become the 10000th school to become an academy. The day was made even more special by a visit from the Secretary of State for Education, the Rt Hon James

Cleverley. We welcomed invited guests from Symphony, other trusts, Ofsted and the DfE as well as parents, staff and governors. Thank you so much to those of you who joined us to celebrate. The children chosen to speak to the Secretary of State had some excellent questions and everyone commented on how articulate and polite the children were. It was a really proud moment for me- school looked amazing and once again the staff and children did us proud! Thank you all again!

Sky News filmed lots of footage, but I'm not sure which bits will be shown on TV. It is due to air on Sky News today at 5.00pm and 7.00pm- I will try to record and share and footage on our school social media pages.



End of the day arrangements

I thought it might be useful to remind everyone of the arrangements for the end of the day. As you will be aware, this is a very busy time with lots of children and adults on the school site. We have a range of procedures in place to keep the children as safe as possible.

To help the children locate their adults we ask that parents try to stand in the same place each day.

Please may we kindly ask you not to stand in the main walkways or around the school gates. It is crucial that these areas have clear visibility. Although we do all that we can to maximise your children's safety please can we remind you that it is your responsibility to arrive on time to collect your child or let the office know if you are running late, so that a member of staff can be responsible for your child until you arrive.

Teachers/support staff are out on the playground at the end of the day, please do not heistate to chat if you have any questions- or just to introduce yourself.

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

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.

Vacancy- Would you like to join our team?

We currently have a vacancy for a Kitchen Assistant.

Monday to Friday 11.30am to 1.00pm

Full training is provided.

For further details and an application form, please contact the school office.

Dogs on site

Dogs are an important part of family life for many in the school community, and as such are often included in day to-day activities such as walking children to and from school. However, others may find the presence of dogs in the playground and on school grounds stressful, even frightening particularly with younger children, and even well behaved dogs can behave unpredictably when placed in a busy, noisy and crowded environment. Consequently, dogs are not permitted on the school site, thank you in advance for your support.

Apply for a School Place – Primary/Secondary

It is fast approaching the time when Year 6 parents need to apply for their secondary school places. To assist you in this, the feeder secondary schools will hold open evenings over the next few weeks. The deadline for applying for a Secondary School place is **31st October 2022**.

The deadline for applying for a Primary School place is **15th January 2023**. 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 need any further information, please contact the Admissions team on admissions@leics.gov.uk or 0116 305 6684.

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

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Sylvie Newman'.

Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher