

# Donisthorpe Primary School Newsletter

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September



Dear Parents and Carers,

I always say to visitors that the best thing about our school are the children who come here! This week Mr Williamson and I have been out and about in classrooms, talking to children about their learning and we really have been impressed with their excellent behaviour and attitudes.

## **Behaviour in School**

We aim to provide challenging, stimulating and fun educational experiences in school and as you know, we have very high expectations of our children.

We celebrate and value the children's excellent work through the use of prescriptive praise, positive comments, displaying their good work, celebrating

together in our weekly Special Mentions assembly and awarding stickers, rewards and team points in class and around school. This ensures our children are well motivated to learn and in turn contribute to the high standards of behaviour we expect.

For children in Years 1 to 5, we use weekly Golden Time as an additional reward. This is a time when children can mix with friends from across the school to participate in an activity of their choosing, such as outdoor play, extra PE, art activities and singing. It really is a lovely time for all of our pupils. We all talk regularly about following the Donisthorpe Way and this is achieved by following six very simple rules:

- ✓ **Follow instructions first time**
- ✓ **Listen to the person who is speaking**
- ✓ **Care for everyone and everything**
- ✓ **Try your best to be the best you can**
- ✓ **Be in the right place at the right time**
- ✓ **Treat others kindly or leave them alone**

Following these rules will make our school a fair and happy place to be for both children and adults. These rules are the same wherever you are in school. They are prominently displayed in all parts of the building, not just the classrooms.

Unfortunately, children by their nature do on occasion make the wrong behaviour choice; we aim to support these children to learn from their mistakes and make better choices in the future. We are an inclusive school and this means that we have a wide range of different children in our school, all with

varying needs- at times some children may need a little bit more support than others. If you have any concerns or questions about how we support children's behaviour in school, please to come and ask.

### Volunteers in school

We are always looking for volunteers to support the children in school, particularly with their reading. If you have an hour or two each week to spare, please contact [slt@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk](mailto:slt@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk) and we would love to welcome you. All volunteers are asked to complete a satisfactory DBS check before they are able to help. Thank you to all of our wonderful parents currently volunteering in school!

### Operation Encompass

We are an Operation Encompass School. This is an initiative developed with Leicestershire Police to ensure that school will be informed when a child or young person has been involved or exposed to a domestic abuse incident the previous evening.



The aim of this is to enable the school to sensitively and appropriately support a child to ensure they feel safe and secure after an incident of domestic abuse.



From the 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2022, Operation Encompass have begun a phased rollout across the Police Force sharing with us incidents that they have attended where they feel there has been an impact upon a child's physical, emotional or mental well-being. We are thrilled the force has made this decision as this confidential information will help us to support and care for the children at our school even more effectively.

More information about Operation Encompass including their statement can be found on their website [www.operationencompass.org](http://www.operationencompass.org)

### Harvest Festival

We are really looking forward to joining together this year to celebrate Harvest. This year's celebration involves **EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children** and will take place on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October** in the school hall.



We will be collecting tinned goods, dried foods and other non-perishables to donate to the Marlene Reid Centre. Donations should be brought to school at the beginning of the day on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you in advance for your support.

### Parents Evening

This year, parents evening will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October. The meetings will take place in school and you will also be able to look at your children's books. A short Settling in Report will be sent home on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October- this will be discussed during the parents evening. You will be sent more information next week about how to book your appointment.



### Reminder PTFA AGM Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October

We have an active PTFA, who organise school discos, film nights and other events throughout the year. If you would like to find out more come along to the **PTFA AGM on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022 at 2.30pm**, at School. More information can be found on their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/240850922733397/>

## 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 31<sup>st</sup> October, and national offer date 1<sup>st</sup> March (*or next working day*).



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### 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk)

Regards,

Sylvie Newman  
Executive Headteacher

| Dairy Dates Autumn 2022 |   |   |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Date                    | Event/Year Group  | Time  |
| Monday 3 October        | PTFA AGM  | 2.30pm  |
| Tuesday 4 October       | Year 6 Forest School  | All day   |
| Tuesday 4 October       | Reading Workshop for parents  | 6.00pm to 7.00pm  |
| Thursday 6 October      | Harvest Festival at school- Year's EYFS/1/2<br>More detail to follow! | 9.00am Red/Blue parents<br>10.00am Yellow/Green Parents |
| Thursday 6 October      | Year 6 parent residential meeting                                     | 6.30pm  |
| Friday 7 October        | Settling in Reports home to parents                                   | am  |
| Friday 7 October        | EYFS Forest School  | am  |
|                         | Year 1 Forest School  | pm  |
| Tuesday 11 October      | Parents Evening in school   | 3.30pm to 7.00pm  |
| Thursday 13 October     | Parents Evening in school   | 3.30pm to 7.00pm  |

|  |  |                                   |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Thursday 13 October  | Tempest photographs in school  | am preschool siblings from 8.25am |
| Friday 14 October  | EYFS Forest School   | am                                |
|  | Year 1 Forest School   | pm                                |
| <b>Half Term- School reopens Monday 24 October</b>             |  |                                   |
| 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<br>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  |                                   |
| <b>End of Autumn Term- School reopens on Tuesday 2 January</b> |  |                                   |