



Donisthorpe News

Friday 4th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the final two weeks of what has been the most unusual and challenging term, I want to ask you all for your support.

Over the last term, your child's teachers have been working so hard, teaching the children in school during the day, covering classes, giving up their support staff for cover, doing extra duties, using the evenings to mark, setting home learning for those who are at home isolating, making sure that the classrooms look amazing and so much more. We are all tired and are very much looking forward to spending Christmas with our loved ones!

Government advice is still that children should continue to attend school. Schools are safe places to be, especially with the additional measures that we have put into place, for example ventilation in classrooms, regular hand washing and as far as possible, classes in distinct bubbles.

However, we ask that you are extra vigilant over the next few weeks for signs and symptoms of Covid and please do get a test if you or anyone in your household develops symptoms or is feeling unwell. Remember that the entire household should isolate until the test results are back. Children should NOT attend school whilst anyone in the household is awaiting test results, as this is often when the virus is passed to others.

When you have the test result, particularly if it is positive, please let school know as soon as possible by emailing slt@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk so that we can seek advice and decide if any children/staff are close contacts and need to isolate for 14 days. I will be checking this email in the evening and at the weekend too.

Self-isolation means your child must remain at home both during the school week and during weekends. They should not be taking part in any activities such as sport; they should not go outside or to public areas during this self-isolation period, or come into contact with anyone outside of their home. **Even if you never develop symptoms, you can still be infected and pass the virus on without knowing it.**

Please also let me know via email (slt@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk) if your child tests positive for Covid over the Christmas break, so that I can track and trace any possible contacts and make the appropriate authorities aware.

We all have our part to play in reducing coronavirus infections in our community and we need your help to safeguard the wellbeing of our staff and pupils and to protect precious and well-earned family time together. Thank you in advance for your support.

Staggered timings

The staggered drop off and collection times will remain in place after the Christmas break and for the foreseeable future.

Apply for a Primary School Place

The deadline for applying for a Primary School place is **15th January 2021**. The simplest way is online at: www.leics.gov.uk/admissions. If you need any further information, please contact the Admissions team on admissions@leics.gov.uk or 0116 305 6684.

Christmas at Donisthorpe

Celebrating Christmas may be very different at home this year, however we are still planning on celebrating in school! We will be putting together a Christmas celebration video that will be shared with you on Friday 11th December, so put the date in your diary!



Christmas Cards

Children are welcome to bring Christmas cards/presents into school for children in *their* class if they wish to. Please ensure you allow time for them to be placed into quarantine at school for a period of **48 hours** before they can be given out to avoid disappointment. Unfortunately, due to the current climate, children *will not* be able to bring toys/games into school on the last day of term, Friday 18th December.

Christmas Jumper Day

Children are invited to take part in Christmas jumper day (non-school uniform) on **Friday 11th December** by wearing their festive jumper to raise money for Save the Children. There is a suggested minimum donation of £1.00 for this worthwhile cause, thank you in advance for your support.



I'm sure you will agree that Mrs Bate and her team in the kitchen have done an amazing job throughout the very challenging circumstances we find ourselves facing, providing hot and cold lunches for the children on a daily basis. To ensure the children do not miss out on her delicious Christmas dinner, Mrs Bate and the team will be offering children the option of a **Festive Hot Box** Christmas lunch on **Thursday 17th**

December to eat in their class. Please see the attached flyer for further information. **If your child does not wish to have a Festive Hot Box on Thursday 17th December, they will need to bring a packed lunch from home.**

Pantomime

We are very excited to welcome 'The Wizard of Oz' to Donisthorpe Primary School! The socially distanced pantomime will go ahead for each phase on Friday 18th December.....oh yes it will! There will be one actor and a screen to share the main performance- we're really pleased it can still go ahead! Thank you to the PTFA for funding this wonderful festive experience for our children!

This will be my last newsletter of 2020, it has been another fantastic year here at Donisthorpe, despite the challenges we have faced; we have the most amazing children, dedicated staff, supportive parents and we are blessed to be situated in a great community! Thank you to you all for your support this term, I know we will all be pleased to welcome in the New Year...here's to 2021!

School closes for the Christmas break on Friday 18th December 2020. We reopen to children on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

As always, if you have any questions or queries, do not hesitate to contact school.

Regards,



Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

Festive Hot Box

Thursday 17th December 2020

£2.35

(Order on the day/payment via usual methods unless you are entitled to Universal Free School Meals/Free School Meals)

Hot Turkey Bap

Pigs in Blankets

or

Quorn Chicken Bap

Quorn Mini Sausages

Roast Potatoes

Christmas Biscuit

