

Donisthorpe Primary School Newsletter

Friday 10th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'd like to start this week's newsletter with an apology to Year 3 parents. In our most recent parent survey, one of the reoccurring themes was that parents wanted more opportunities for their children to participate in Forest Schools. I managed to secure additional sessions with the Little Acorns Team, starting with Year 6 and Year 3 classes. However, due to the half term, the letter with information for parents came out at very short notice- I would like to apologise for this. The support of parents is very important to me and I do endeavour to communicate in a variety of ways, via email, text, on social media and through letters.

A huge thank you to the Year 3 parents who despite the late notice were able to send their children ready for their first Forest School session.

Thank you as well to parents for your support during this week's snowy weather- hopefully spring is just around the corner!

World Book Day

Last week, the children and staff came to school in a wide variety of fantastic costumes or ready to read for World Book Day. Well done to everyone for making such a huge effort. Children took part in a range of activities in class and everyone had a fun day. Your child has been given a book token which will enable them to either, choose a book from a set selection, or get £1 off any book worth £2.99 or more at participating retailers.

Strike action

The next dates scheduled for industrial action are Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March 2023, **school will be open to all children on Wednesday 15th March.**

OUR YEAR 5 CLASS WILL BE CLOSED ON THURSDAY 16TH

The attendance of children whose classes are affected by strike action will not be affected.

For these pupils, our website <http://www.donisthorpeprimary.org/remote-learning.html> has many relevant activities for pupils to do at home. We also suggest pupils undertake usual activities such as reading, multiplication tables or number facts. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.



Time keeping

Over the last few weeks, we have seen an increasing number of children arriving late for school in the mornings. This is incredibly unsettling for the children and does not allow them to enjoy a smooth start to the school day with their peers. We always give any late comers a warm welcome, but it can be upsetting for children to enter the class after everyone else. It also means that the reception area can become very congested and busy first thing in the morning. Please be aware that teachers often focus on some of the most important things for children early in the morning because research shows this is when they are at their most receptive. If your child is regularly late for school, they will consistently miss this important part of their learning!



Kitchen Assistant Vacancy- Required for Tuesday 1st May 2023

We are looking for **Kitchen Assistant** to join our amazing kitchen team at Donisthorpe Primary School.

Fixed term contract until Wednesday 12th July 2023

Grade 2

5 days per week Monday to Friday

Hours: 11.35am to 1.00pm- school term time only

Please return completed applications via email to office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk

Closing date for applications is Thursday 23rd March

Interview date is Monday 27th March

A satisfactory DBS and two references will be required for this position.

Stay Safe Online

We are constantly updating our thoughts and actions when navigating the online world. Building digital resilience and the ability to recognise when you are at risk online is a key element to being safe online. A resilient child is more likely to stay safe if anything bad happens and benefit from the opportunities the online world provides.

How can we help to develop this? It is important that while we may not understand all the apps or devices they use, we do have thoughts about what is good and bad/ right and wrong, in the world, and sharing these values is a fantastic way to process their experiences. By shutting down on difficult issues they become more, rather than less frightening. What has been seen cannot be unseen. However, talking together and making sense of the information will make a difference. We can teach our children to be critical thinkers so that they can make sensible judgements about what they are seeing and doing. Children do need to take risks and learn that they can recover when things go wrong and with our help and guidance they will develop ways to recognise when they are at risk.

Ways you could guide your children:

- Talk to your children about the risks (particularly sexting).

- Explore ways, with your child, to report things to the app/site that have worried them.
- Create 'screen-free time' for the whole family. Enjoy time together doing something outdoors or creative.
- Be curious and better understand the online world they live in. Find time to show an interest in the sites they use and discuss times they have felt uncomfortable online. Talk together and if you feel that parental antennae tingling: delve deeper.

You are the parent. What you say goes. Make sure you stick to boundaries and build a healthy relationship with digital media.

These are the modern troubles our children face. They may not be issues we can understand but it is our job to find out so that we can guide and empathise. Their future happiness may well depend on how good their relationship is with digital media.

Further information can be found here:

www.childline.org.uk

Tel: 0800 1111

Parent helpline 0808 800 5000

Energy drinks

As you may be aware energy drinks are not suitable for young people because of their high levels of caffeine and are clearly labelled to this effect. The high levels of caffeine and sugar in these drinks can affect children's ability to focus and concentrate on learning. Consequently, we are asking children not to bring energy drinks into school. We would ask parents and carers to work with us on this and help ensure that our young people do not consume energy drinks before coming to school. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.



PTFA Flowers for the Superwoman in your life!

Please see the attached flyer for information.

End of Key Stage SATS

SATs week for our current Year 6 children will take place from Tuesday 9th May 2023 with the last test being on Friday 12th May. National testing for Year 2 children will take place during the month of May 2023.

SATS Meeting for parents

Mr Williamson will be hosting a short SATs meeting for parents of children in Year 2 and Year 6- this meeting is NOT suitable for children. The details are as follows:

Tuesday 21st March Year 2 parents 6.00pm in the school hall

Tuesday 21st March Year 6 parents 6.40pm in the school hall

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

Regards,

Sylvie Newman

Executive Headteacher



Tickets on sale
NOW



**All money goes to the
children of Donisthorpe
Primary School*



£2.50

per
Super
Bunch

Orders close
at 12pm
Tues 14th

3 for £6

DISCOUNT
CODE: BUNCH3

<http://www.pta-events.co.uk/donisthorpepta>

