

# Donisthorpe Primary School Newsletter

Ambitious Nurturing Positive



Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! Welcome back to school, I hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas break and were able to spend some quality time with your loved ones. On behalf of all staff, I would like to say a huge 'Thank You' to the children and parents who brought in Christmas cards and gifts at the end of last term. We all really appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity, especially at such a busy and costly time of year.

We had a fabulous start to the year with our first Wellbeing day for pupils. This was a time for children to learn new techniques and activities to support their wellbeing and help to maintain a healthy life; we all had a fabulous day!

This term's Wellbeing Newsletter for families with ideas and suggestions is attached.

## **Behaviour and Relationships Policy**

This week saw the launch of our new Behaviour and Relationships Policy in school. The children and staff have been absolutely amazing and are adapting really well. The new policy is based on the belief that good behaviour is not automatically learned but needs to be taught and that the support of parents in this is crucial. The Donisthorpe Way now consists of the following 3 school rules:

- **Be Ready**
- **Be Respectful**
- **Be Safe**

These rules are clear, cover a range of different situations and can be easily remembered by everyone. Thank you in advance for your support to ensure the highest standards of behaviour are maintained at Donisthorpe Primary School.

## **Parents Evening**

Parents evening this term will take place on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February. We will notify you when the online booking system is open for you to book an appointment with your child's class teacher. You will receive your child's mid-year report on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

## **School Uniform**

Please can you ensure your children wear the correct school uniform each day. If you are struggling to provide uniform for your child, please contact school and we will be happy to help you out. Please also



ensure your child wears correct PE kit on PE days. Again, if you have any problems let us know and we can help.

### **Snowy Weather**

As we approach the cold season, it becomes necessary for us to plan for potential disruptions caused by bad weather. In light of this, I wanted to share our procedures for notifying you about school closures due to snow. I will monitor weather conditions closely, and aim to make a decision regarding school closure by 7:00am on the day in question. We understand the importance of providing you with ample time to make alternative arrangements for your child's care and to ensure everyone's safety.



Once the decision is made, we will promptly inform all staff and parents, this will be done by text and email. Our goal is to reach each of you no later than 7:15am on the day of the potential closure.

In the event of snowy conditions that impact travel to school, but allow us to open the school site safely, our registers will remain open until 10:00am, providing additional time and flexibility for drop-off. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we prioritise the safety and well-being of our children, staff, and families. Thank you for your continued support.

### **Contact Details**

If you have changed your mobile number over the Christmas break, please do let the school office know, so that we are able to contact you should there be an emergency. Any other details such as change of address; email or other emergency contact or collection information should be given to the office too. Many thanks.

### **Pupil Premium Funding**

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them, school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school. Even if your children are in EYFS or Key Stage 1- you can still apply!

### **What is pupil premium funding?**

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils achieve their best regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

At Donisthorpe Primary School we get an extra £1,345 funding from the government for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money makes a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions
- Support towards costs of trips and residentials
- Support towards costs of school uniform

### **Is my child eligible for free school meals?**

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Please pop into the school office if you think you might be eligible to find out more about how to apply. If you need any other assistance, please see me or Mr Williamson and we will be able to signpost you to other services and support.

## Health and Safety on School Grounds

### Bikes and Scooters

Can I remind parents that children should not cycle or scoot on the school grounds, this is to ensure everyone's safety at this busy time of day. Children should not be unsupervised in the front garden before school.



### Dogs

Please may I remind you that we do not allow any dogs on site, even when they are being carried. Many children are afraid of animals or have allergies and all dogs, however well trained, can be unpredictable in certain situations. For these reasons we also kindly ask you to be considerate with your dog at the school gates. If you need to tie your them onto the school railings, please do so as far away as you can from the main entrance. Children can be frightened walking past a barking dog.

### Parking

As you already know, Ashby Road is very congested at the start and end of the day when parents are collecting their children. Local residents have raised concerns that their drives are being blocked at busy times. **Please do not park in front of anyone's driveway.** I know that you all lead very busy lives, but if you were able to park further away from the school gates and walk a little further to collect your children, it would be much safer for everyone. Thank you in advance.

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

# 2023-2024 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please find below dates for this academic year- we have tried to include as much information as possible here! This information will be added to the biweekly newsletter and will also be available on the school website. newsletter and will also be available on the school website.



<b>8 Jan</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>8 Jan</b>	Children's Wellbeing Day	All day
<b>20 Jan</b>	Cross Country at Hugglescote	
<b>23 Jan</b>	SATS Meeting for Year 6 parents	6.00pm
<b>24 Jan</b>	Young Voices Year 5/6	
<b>25 Jan</b>	PTFA Bags2School Clothing Collection	
<b>3 Feb</b>	Cross Country at Measham	
<b>6 Feb</b>	Safer Internet Day	
<b>8 Feb</b>	Year 5/6 Trip to Cadbury World	
<b>9 Feb</b>	Mid-Year reports sent home	
<b>12 Feb</b>	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
<b>14 Feb</b>	PTFA Love Yourself Day	
<b>15 Feb</b>	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
<b>16 Feb</b>	Everyone Belongs Day	
<b>16 Feb</b>	School closes for half term	3.15pm
<b>February Half term</b>		
<b>26 Feb</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>27 Feb</b>	Year 1 Phonics meeting for parents	5.00pm
<b>7 Mar</b>	World Book Day	All day
<b>8 Mar</b>	PTFA Mother's Day – Pop up Shop Flowers/Gifts for sale	
<b>22 Mar</b>	School closes for Easter	3.15pm
<b>Easter Break</b>		
<b>8 Apr</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>18 Apr</b>	Class Photos	am
<b>6 May</b>	School closed for Bank Holiday	All day
<b>13 May</b>	Year 6 SATS week	
<b>17 May</b>	Year 6 Forest School Hicks Lodge	
<b>24 May</b>	PTFA Friday Funday / Spring Fair	
<b>24 May</b>	School closes for Half Term	3.15pm
<b>May Half term</b>		
<b>3 Jun</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>3 Jun</b>	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
<b>10 Jun</b>	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
<b>10 Jun</b>	Year 1 phonics check week begins	
<b>TBC</b>	Saffron Lane- NWLSSP sporting event, selected KS2 children TBC	
<b>14 Jun</b>	Sports Day- School field refreshments provided by the PTFA	1.00pm
<b>26 Jun</b>	Ashby School Induction Day for Year 6	
<b>27 Jun</b>	Reserve Date for Sports Day- in case of wet weather	1.00pm
<b>3 Jul</b>	End of Year Reports out to parents	
<b>4 Jul</b>	In school move up morning EYFS to Year 5	am

<b>4 Jul</b>	Open Evening to look at books and discuss reports	3.15pm-4.15pm
<b>5 Jul</b>	Year 6 Leavers performance	2.00pm
<b>8 Jul</b>	Year 6 Drayton Manor Reward Trip	All day
<b>9 Jul</b>	Year 6 Leavers Lunch	
<b>9 Jul</b>	Last day of the school year	
<b>Summer Break- have a wonderful Summer!</b>		
<b>27 Aug</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am