

Donisthorpe Primary School Newsletter

Friday 16th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now three weeks into the new term and all of our new children have all settled into school routines so well. Our new foundation children are enjoying coming to school and are already busy with their 'learning jobs' in the classroom!

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 1st November 2022 at 6.30pm**. There will be 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.



Reading Workshop

On **Tuesday 4th October** from 6.00pm to 7.00pm, we are holding our first Reading Workshop for parents in the school hall. As this event is open to parents of all year groups, we politely request that only one adult from each household attend. If successful, we will look to hold a further session later in the year. please see the separate letter for more details.

Harvest Festival 2023

We are really looking forward to joining together this year to celebrate Harvest. This year's celebration will involve **EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children** and will take place on Thursday 6th October in the school hall. To ensure that we can accommodate all of the children's parents, there will be two assemblies as follows. (We will make sure that parents know which event to attend.)



9.00am

Red/Blue Team Parents

10.00am

Yellow/Green Team Parents

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 6th October.

Parents Evening

This year parents evening will take place on Tuesday 11th October and Thursday 13th 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 7th October- this will be discussed during the parents evening. You will be sent more information in the next few weeks about how to book your appointment.



Attendance

Attendance has been very good so far this term. Thank you for your help in making sure that your children attend school and arrive on time. Punctuality is really important. Doors open at 8.35am and **close at 8.55am**. Children arriving after that time will need to enter via the office. Many classes undertake important learning first thing in the morning whilst the children are bright and fresh and it can be unsettling for children who arrive late. If your child is unable to attend school, it is vitally important that you inform us of this and let us know *why*, before 9.00am on the day of absence. Please also arrive promptly to collect your child(ren) at the end of the school day. Please email

office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk or call the school, giving your child's name, class and a brief reason for absence.

Any absence (including lateness) affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence can seriously affect their learning. Ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is your legal responsibility and permitting absence from school without a good reason is an offence in law.

School Uniform

It is our priority to ensure that school uniform is of low cost and that parents are able to access second hand uniform. We aim to ensure that our uniform is accessible to all in the following ways:

- Parents may opt for their children to wear plain or logo/branded uniform. Plain uniform is available from all supermarkets and other suppliers at a low cost.
- Logo/branded uniform can be purchased from one of our two suppliers, at a low cost.
- The school holds a small stock of second-hand uniform in all sizes. Parents should speak to the office or their child's class teacher at any time.
- Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium funding are offered support with uniform costs. Parents should speak to the office or their child's class teacher at any time.
- We encourage families to pass uniform down through siblings and friends.

Please see our suppliers below, for uniform with our logo on, however it is not a requirement for children to wear branded uniform. As such, uniform can be purchased from any supermarket at a low cost.

Ashby Schoolwear in Ashby <https://www.ashbyschoolwear.co.uk/>

Pupils Schoolwear in Swadlincote <https://pupilschoolwear.co.uk/>

PTFA AGM Monday 3rd October

We have an active PTFA, who organise School Discos, Film nights and other events throughout the year. The last few years have been different due to COVID-19, however we are hoping to be back to normal this year and are busy arranging as many fun things as possible for our wonderful children!

The school has asked the PTFA to help raise funds for a new Octagonal shelter with picket sides, seating and decking for the school field. This project would benefit all of the children at Donisthorpe Primary School. It will be large enough to accommodate a whole class at a time, providing a restful and peaceful location for the children. It would also act as additional shade in the height of the summer for the children and a rain shelter for the colder months.

If you would like to find out more come along to the PTFA AGM on Monday 3rd 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. To assist you in this, the feeder secondary schools (Ivanhoe School, Ashby School, Ibstock Community College Information concerning these schools is available from the individual establishments) will hold open evenings over the next few weeks.



Ibstock Community College
Respect and Pride brings Success

I want to stress the importance of **applying for three schools including the catchment school**. 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 31st October, and national offer date 1st March (*or next working day*).

Primary

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>

Vacancies- Would you like to join our team? Are you available at lunchtimes every day? Are you looking for part time work?

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.

LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR

Monday to Friday 11.55am to 1.05pm

You will need to help, support and play alongside children aged 4 to 11 outside during their lunchtime break. Patience, enjoyment of children's company, a very positive outlook and lots of common sense are essential!

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Funeral

School will be closed on Monday 19 September 2022, the date of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's State Funeral, we will reopen on Tuesday 20th September 2022. Thank you to those who have sent in pictures and messages for the school's Book of Reflection, we will send it to the palace next week. We join the Royal Family and the nation in their grief and offer our heartfelt condolences.

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

Regards,

Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

Dairy Dates Autumn 2022		
Date	Event/Year Group	Time
Wednesday 21 September	Year 4 Forest School	All day
Thursday 22 September	Year 1 open classroom (for those unable to attend on 9 September)	2.45pm to 3.30pm
Friday 23 September	Year 5 Solar Farm	
Tuesday 27 September	Year 5 Forest School	All day
Friday 30 September	EYFS Forest School	am
	Year 1 Forest School	pm
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 More detail to follow!	9.00am Red/Blue parents 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
Half Term- School reopens Monday 24 October		
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 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	
End of Autumn Term- School reopens on Tuesday 2 January		