

Donisthorpe Primary School Newsletter

Ambitious Nurturing Positive



Friday 22nd September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now four 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! Year 1 and Year 2 children are also really enjoying their new outside space; it has made sure a difference to their learning!

New EYFS parents (2023 intake) Open Evening

Do you have a child who is due to start school in September 2024? 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 **Wednesday 4th October 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.

Phonics Workshop

On **Wednesday 27th September**, we are holding our first phonics workshop for parents of children in current EYFS. The workshop starts at **9.00am** in the school hall. EYFS parents have been sent a letter separately.

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 Monday 2nd 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 send a slip of paper with the children's houses in by the end of the week.)

9.15am	Red/Yellow House Parents
10.30am	Blue/Green House 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 Monday 2nd October.



Parents Evening

This year parents evening will take place on Monday 2nd October and Thursday 5th 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 29th September- this will be discussed during the parents evening. You will be sent more information about how to book your appointment shortly.

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 8.30am and **close at 8.45am**. 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 3.15pm. 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

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 XXXXX, 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**. Some children in the past, have been 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 2024**.

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?

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!

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

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sylvie Newman".

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.



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13 Sept	Forest School Year 2 on site	All day
20 Sept	Forest School Year 3 Hicks Lodge	All day
21 Sept	PTFA AGM- in school (Room 1)	2.00pm all welcome
	Year 6 Swimming begins	pm
26 Sept	Forest School Year 4 Hicks Lodge	All day
29 Sept	Settling in reports sent home	
2 Oct	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
4 Oct	New EYFS Intake 2024 Open Evening	6.30pm to 7.00pm
5 Oct	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
9 Oct	Year 6 Residential	
9 Oct	Year 6 Forest School	
10 Oct	Year 6 Residential	
10 Oct	Year 6 Forest School	
11 Oct	Year 6 Residential	
13 Oct	School closes for half term	3.15pm
October Half term		
23 Oct	School reopens	8.30am
23 Oct	Everyone Belongs Week	
24 Oct	Multi Faith Roadshow in school	All day
26 Oct	Individual photos	am
2 Nov	Year 5 Swimming begins	pm
10 Nov	Remembrance Day	
13 Nov	Anti-Bullying Week	
13 Nov	Odd Sock Day- children can come to school wearing Odd Socks with their uniforms!	All day
17 Nov	Children in Need details TBC	All Day
13 Dec	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity	2.30pm
14 Dec	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity	9.15am
21 Dec	Pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk	pm
TBC	Year 2 to Year 6 Christmas service	
22 Dec	School closes for Christmas	3.15pm
Christmas Break		
8 Jan	School reopens for children	8.30am
24 Jan	Yong Voices Year 5/6	
6 Feb	Safer Internet Day	
9 Feb	Mid Year reports sent home	
12 Feb	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
15 Feb	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
16 Feb	Everyone Belongs Day	
16 Feb	School closes for half term	3.15pm
February Half term		

26 Feb	School reopens for children	8.30am
27 Feb	Year 1 Phonics Meeting for parents	5.00pm
7 March	World Book Day	All day
21 March	School closes for Easter	3.15pm
Easter Break		
8 April	School reopens for children	8.30am
18 April	Class Photos	am
6 May	School closed for Bank Holiday	All day
13 May	Year 6 SATS week	
24 May	School closes for Easter	3.15pm
May Half term		
3 June	School reopens for children	8.30am
3 June	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
10 June	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
10 June	Year 1 phonics check week begins	
TBC	Saffron Lane- NWLSSP sporting event, selected KS2 children TBC	
14 June	Sports Day- School field refreshments provided by the PTFA	1.00pm
26 June	Ashby School's Induction Day for Year 6	
27 June	Reserve Date for Sports Day- in case of wet weather	1.00pm
3 July	End of Year Reports out to parents	
4 July	Open Evening to look at books and discuss reports	3.15pm-4.15pm
4 July	In school move up morning EYFS to Year 5	am
5 July	Year 6 Leavers performance	2.00pm
8 July	Year 6 Drayton Manor Reward Trip	All day
9 July	Year 6 Leavers Lunch	
9 July	Last day of the school year	
Summer Break- have a wonderful Summer!		
27 August	School reopens for children	8.30am