

WELCOME BACK!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! This is the first newsletter of the new academic year here at Donisthorpe. I trust that you all kept safe, had a good summer break and enjoyed the lovely weather we have had over the last few weeks!

It is wonderful to see the children back at school, smiling and as excited as we all are for the year ahead. It was

particularly nice to see those children who have not been into school since March. The children have been so sensible and are quickly learning the new rules and routines in place to keep them and everyone safe.

I would like to say a very warm welcome to our new children and their families; we have some new children starting in Key Stage 1 and 2 as well as 30 new children beginning their Donisthorpe journey in EYFS this year.



Thank you so much for your patience at drop off and collection times, this system has worked well- despite the wet weather.

Wet Weather

Please remember to send your children to school with a raincoat each day, even if the weather is nice in the morning, as we saw yesterday there is a slightly longer wait outside after school whilst we dismiss the children safely



Timings

Please stick to your timings, particularly after school as the children will be brought out in groups at their time slot- it is not helpful to arrive early as it is confusing for staff releasing children. Remember that the measures at the start and end of the day are to protect you, your families and our staff.

Uniform

A huge thank you to all of our parents and carers, all the children have looked smart and ready to learn in their uniforms.

PE

On PE days we ask that the children come to school in their outdoor PE kit as their school uniform. The school only has a limited number of PE kits available for loan, and every time it is used, it will need to be washed by the school before being ready for use again.



Reading Books

Reading books for all year groups will be changed on a **Tuesday** and a **Friday**, allowing time for books to be placed in quarantine before being returned to the book shelves.

Changes to collection arrangements

Please let the school office know if there are any changes to your collection arrangements, either by telephone or via email office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk

Contact Information

Please remember to regularly update the school office in writing if there are any changes to the contact details we have on record for your child, including people on your contact list who have permission to collect your child from school.

Masks

Government advice remains that children do not need to wear masks in school, however if you are choosing to send your child to school in a mask, they will need to know how to take it off and put it on safely as follows:

- Wash/sanitise hands before and after handling
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties- do not touch the front of the mask
- Fold outside corners together
- Place mask in a plastic bag and seal
- Wash/sanitise hands immediately after removing

Illness

We have had a few phone calls from parents saying that their children have runny noses and asking if they need to be kept at home. Children only need to be kept at home if they are unwell or if they have Covid Symptoms. (New, persistent cough, high temperature, loss of taste or smell)

What should I do if my child (or someone in my house) has a new, persistent cough, high temperature, loss of taste or smell?

- If you or your child presents with any of the Covid symptoms you must book a test
- Children must not come into school if they have these symptoms, and will be sent home to self-isolate if they develop symptoms in school

We ask that parents inform us **immediately** of the results of a test

- If someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.
- If someone tests positive, they should follow the '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

In addition, if you or your child has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus you must stay at home (self-isolate) for 14 days from the day you were last in contact with the person – it can take up to 14 days for symptoms to appear.

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

Regards,



Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

