

Donisthorpe Primary School Newsletter

Friday 6th January 2023

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.



As you will be aware from the national and local press, flu and Covid are currently circulating at high levels and this is likely to continue to increase in coming weeks. In addition, high numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also continue to be reported. Following simple steps can help protect our school community and minimise the spread of illness in school. **If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay at home from school until they feel better and the fever has resolved.** We will be reminding children about the importance of good hand hygiene and to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues before placing used tissues in a bin.

Parents Evening

Parents evening this term will take place on Tuesday 14th February and Thursday 16th 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 10th 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.

Contact Details

If you have changed your mobile number over the Christmas break, please 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; e-mail 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 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.

Additional Bank Holiday – Monday 8th May 2023

Following the announcement of His Majesty's coronation on Saturday 6th May 2023, an additional bank holiday has been announced for Monday 8th May. School will be closed on this day and will reopen on Tuesday 9th May.

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. We will be sharing information regarding testing arrangements for Year 6 and Year 2 later on in the school year.

Everyone at Donisthorpe Primary School wishes you a wonderful 2023 full of great achievements and happiness. This year we are going to be proud of what we achieve and I know that 2023 will be another fantastic year! Remember...what we do today, matters tomorrow!

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

Regards,



Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

Diary Dates Spring 2022-2023	
21 st January	Cross Country @ Hugglescote Primary School
25 th January	Young Voices
15 th February & 16 th February	Parents Evening
17 th February	British Values Day- open classroom at 2.45pm
17 th February	School closes for half term
February Half Term	
27 th February	School reopens
2 nd March	World Book Day <i>More detail to follow</i>
2 nd March	PTFA Film Night <i>More detail to follow</i>
17 th March	Red Nose Day – wear an item of red for a small donation <i>More detail to follow</i>
17 th March	Athlete Visit to school <i>More detail to follow</i>
17 th March	PTFA Mother's Day <i>More detail to follow</i>
20 th March	Year 6 Warning Zone Visit
31 st March	PTFA Break the Rules Day
31 March	School Closes for Easter Holidays