

# Donisthorpe Primary School Newsletter

Ambitious Nurturing Positive



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I always say to visitors that the best thing about our school are the children who come here! This week Mr Williamson and I have been out and about in classrooms, talking to children about their learning and we really have been impressed with their excellent behaviour and attitudes.

## Harvest Festival

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October we held our Harvest Festival in school, it was such a lovely event. This year's celebration involved EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children; they sang and spoke so well- we were so proud of them all! It was so lovely to see so many parents in school too! We collected lots of donations of food for the Marlene Reid Centre in Coalville, thank you to everyone who gave so generously.



## Parents Evening

Parents evenings this week have been really well attended. We are aiming to speak to all of our parents, so please do get in touch with your child's class teacher if you were unable to make an appointment and would like to speak to them about your child's progress.



## Everyone Belongs Week

Week beginning Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October is our 'Everyone Belongs' week. Our children will spend the week immersing themselves in different cultures and faiths and will also spend time exploring storybooks that celebrates all forms of difference.

On **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October**, children across the school will take part in a Religion and Belief Roadshow, which will provide them with hands on experience of a range of different faiths. If you are interested in finding out more, please drop into school between 2.00pm and 2.30pm when the Religion and Belief Roadshow will be open for parents to find out more!

We are really looking forward to the week. Look out for pictures on our social media platforms!

## Behaviour in School

We aim to provide challenging, stimulating and fun educational experiences in school and as you know, we have very high expectations of our children.

We celebrate and value the children's excellent work through the use of prescriptive praise, positive comments, displaying their good work, celebrating together in our weekly Special Mentions assembly and awarding stickers, rewards and team points in class and around school. This ensures our children are well motivated to learn and in turn contribute to the high standards of behaviour we expect.



Unfortunately, children by their nature do on occasion make the wrong behaviour choice; we aim to support these children to learn from their mistakes and make better choices in the future. We are an inclusive school and this means that we have a wide range of different children in our school, all with varying needs- at times some children may need a little bit more support than others. If you have any concerns or questions about how we support children's behaviour in school, please do come and ask.

### **Volunteers in school**

We are always looking for volunteers to support the children in school, particularly with their reading. If you have an hour or two each week to spare, please contact [slt@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk](mailto:slt@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk) and we would love to welcome you. All volunteers are asked to complete a satisfactory DBS check before they are able to help. Thank you to all of our wonderful parents currently volunteering in school!

### **Spare Clothes**

As you will be aware, from time to time some of our younger children may have an 'accident' at school and need to change their clothes. ***Please if you have any of the school's spare clothes at home can you wash them and return them to school?*** I purchased new pants and socks at the start of the year and they have not been returned to school so we now have a very limited supply.

## **Please help!**

**If you have any of the following items that you would be willing to donate we would be very grateful:**

**Pants**  
**Socks**  
**Jogging bottoms**  
**Leggings**

**To fit children aged 4 to 8.**  
**Thank you in advance!**

### **Parking Concerns**

As you already know, Ashby Road is very congested at the end of the day when parents are collecting their children. We all want to keep our children safe, so here are some top tips on how you can make a difference.

### **How Can You Help?**

- ✓ Keep your speed down
- ✓ Turn your engine off if leaving your vehicle
- ✓ Leave the middle of the road free, with enough room for other road users to easily pass through
- ✓ Make sure your child leaves and enters your vehicle safely onto the pavement
- ✓ Check for pedestrians and cyclists before opening a car door
- ✓ Leave enough room on pavements for pedestrians to get past
- ✓ Take care when reversing

### **Please Keep Clear...**

- ✓ Zig Zags and School Entrances
- ✓ Dropped Kerbs
- ✓ Resident's Driveways

**Please park considerably around our school and keep our children safe!**

**Have you considered...**

- Parking further away from school and walking
- Walking or cycling to school instead? This is a great way to contribute to a child's 60 minutes of activity a day and is easy to incorporate into your daily routine. Try it once a week at first and see how easy it can be.

I know that you all lead very busy lives, but if we all work together it will be much safer for everyone.

**Parental Supervision**

If you are on site before the doors/gates open in the morning, please can we ask that you do not allow the children to play in the school's front garden and on the walls and fences in the school grounds. **You must supervise your children at all times.**

**Operation Encompass**

We are an Operation Encompass School. This is an initiative developed with Leicestershire Police to ensure that school will be informed when a child or young person has been involved or exposed to a domestic abuse incident the previous evening.



The aim of this is to enable the school to sensitively and appropriately support a child to ensure they feel safe and secure after an incident of domestic abuse. Operation Encompass work with the Police Force sharing with us incidents that they have attended where they feel there has been an impact upon a child's physical, emotional or mental well-being. This information is shared in confidence and will help us to support and care for the children at our school even more effectively. More information about Operation Encompass including their statement can be found on their website [www.operationencompass.org](http://www.operationencompass.org)

**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

**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>

If you have any questions, please phone school or email [office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk](mailto:office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk)

Regards,

Sylvie Newman

## 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>29 Sept</b>	Settling in reports sent home	
<b>2 Oct</b>	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
<b>4 Oct</b>	New EYFS Intake 2024 Open Evening	6.30pm to 7.30pm
<b>5 Oct</b>	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
<b>9 Oct</b>	Year 6 Residential	
<b>9 Oct</b>	Year 5 / 6 Forest School Hicks Lodge	
<b>10 Oct</b>	Year 6 Residential	
<b>10 Oct</b>	Year 5 / 6 Forest School Hicks Lodge	
<b>11 Oct</b>	Year 6 Residential	
<b>13 Oct</b>	School closes for half term	3.15pm
<b>October Half term</b>		
<b>23 Oct</b>	School reopens	8.30am
<b>23 Oct</b>	Everyone Belongs Week	
<b>24 Oct</b>	Religion and Belief Roadshow <b>Open to parents from 2.00pm to 2.30pm</b>	
<b>26 Oct</b>	Multi Sports event at Ashby School Year 2 children	pm
<b>26 Oct</b>	Individual photos	am
<b>2 Nov</b>	Year 5 Swimming begins	pm
<b>10 Nov</b>	Remembrance Day	
<b>13 Nov</b>	Anti-Bullying Week	
<b>13 Nov</b>	Odd Sock Day- children can come to school wearing Odd Socks with their uniforms!	All day
<b>17 Nov</b>	Children in Need details TBC	All Day
<b>8 Dec</b>	Year 4 Ukulele Performance	TBA
<b>13 Dec</b>	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity	2.30pm
<b>14 Dec</b>	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity	9.15am
<b>21 Dec</b>	Pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk	pm
<b>TBC</b>	Year 2 to Year 6 Christmas service	
<b>22 Dec</b>	School closes for Christmas	
<b>Christmas Break</b>		
<b>8 Jan</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>24 Jan</b>	Young Voices Year 5/6	
<b>6 Feb</b>	Safer Internet Day	
<b>9 Feb</b>	Mid Year reports sent home	
<b>12 Feb</b>	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
<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 March</b>	World Book Day	All day
<b>22 March</b>	School closes for Easter	3.15pm
<b>Easter Break</b>		
<b>8 April</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>18 April</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>	School closes for Half Term	3.15pm
<b>May Half term</b>		
<b>3 June</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>3 June</b>	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
<b>10 June</b>	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
<b>10 June</b>	Year 1 phonics check week begins	
<b>TBC</b>	Saffron Lane- NWLSSP sporting event, selected KS2 children TBC	
<b>14 June</b>	Sports Day- School field refreshments provided by the PTFA	1.00pm
<b>26 June</b>	Ashby School Induction Day for Year 6	
<b>27 June</b>	Reserve Date for Sports Day- in case of wet weather	1.00pm
<b>3 July</b>	End of Year Reports out to parents	
<b>4 July</b>	Open Evening to look at books and discuss reports	3.15pm-4.15pm
<b>4 July</b>	In school move up morning EYFS to Year 5	am
<b>5 July</b>	Year 6 Leavers performance	2.00pm
<b>8 July</b>	Year 6 Drayton Manor Reward Trip	All day
<b>9 July</b>	Year 6 Leavers Lunch	
<b>9 July</b>	Last day of the school year	
<b>Summer Break- have a wonderful Summer!</b>		
<b>27 August</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am