

Donisthorpe Primary School Newsletter

Ambitious Nurturing Positive



Friday 1st March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a great half term- it's only 3 more weeks until Easter so Spring is around the corner- hopefully bringing with it some warmer weather! It's been great to see the children back at school after half term this week: they have been focused on their learning and playing happily outside with their friends!

Thursday 7th March is World Book Day!

Every year we are overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of our school

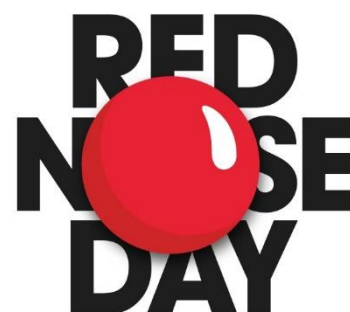


community, but we don't want our World Book Day celebrations to be an additional burden for parents/carers. This year, children are invited to come to school either dressed as a character from a book or in clothing that they are comfortable to read in - this could even be pyjamas! Our theme this year is 'enjoying books', as usual there will be lots of activities in school that promote a love of reading, and we will obviously be spending lots of time reading to and with each other!

We believe that reading is fundamental- we'd love to invite any of you who may be able to spare a couple of hours a week to come in to school to support with reading in school. If you are able to help out, even for an hour week, please contact the school office to complete a DBS!

Red Nose Day 2024

Red Nose Day will return on Friday 15th March and we will be aiming to raise a bit of money for this great cause. Anything raised will help transform the lives of some of the poorest and most disadvantaged families both at home, in the UK and across the world. The theme this year is do something funny for money- with this in minds we encourage children to come to school in the funniest outfit (or simple non-uniform if your child would prefer). This might mean wearing your clothes back to front, vest and pants on the outside or even face paint, makeup or a wig. Keep it simple, use what you have around the house and donate £1 to this wonderful cause.





Food Allergies in school

As a school community, we have a number of people who suffer from allergic reactions to everyday items, both adults and children. Around 7% of children in the UK have some form of food allergy. Food allergies are currently on the increase; research shows that 1 in 10 children less than 5 years old have food allergies.

A food allergy occurs when the body's immune system sees a certain food as harmful and reacts by causing symptoms. This is an allergic reaction. Allergic reactions

can involve the skin, mouth, eyes, lungs, heart, gut and brain.

An allergic reaction triggered by a small amount of food eaten or touched can be rapid in onset and progress quickly to a life threatening emergency.

We have the following systems in place to help keep everyone in the school community safe:

- Food may not be shared between children.
- Washing hands before and after eating is encouraged.
- We discourage food with high risk of allergic reactions, or known allergic reactions to individual students, being brought to school.
- Teachers plan for children with food allergies when planning any fundraisers, cultural days or community events by sending notices to parents requesting food allergy information for each event and discouraging specific food products.
- Food rewards are discouraged and non-food rewards encouraged.
- Children at risk of food anaphylaxis should eat food that is supplied by their parents or food that is agreed to by parents prior to a given event.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation in keeping everyone safe.

School Attendance

Attendance has been very good so far this academic year at 94.8% to date- the figure for schools nationally is currently, 93.4%. **We are however aiming for each child's attendance to be above 96%.** The table below demonstrates how much school children miss if they are absent and it is surprising how this adds up.

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is....	over 13 years schooling
1 day every 2 weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Over 8 years

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.

Good attendance is important because statistics show that children with good attendance have higher attainment in school and studies show that children with attendance above 96% make better progress

socially and academically. With the focus and development on the curriculum that has taken place at school, children who are absent will find gaps in their sequential knowledge.

Working Together

Over the next few weeks I will be making contact with parents of children whose attendance is below 96%, to highlight the current figure and to see if we can support you to improve your child's attendance at school.

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

Regards,



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. newsletter and will also be available on the school website.



26 Feb	School reopens for children	8.30am
27 Feb	Year 1 Phonics meeting for parents	5.00pm
7 Mar	World Book Day	All day
8 Mar	PTFA Mother's Day – Pop up Shop Flowers/Gifts for sale	
15 Mar	Red Nose Day wear the funniest uniform or non uniform - £1 donation	All day
22 Mar	School closes for Easter	3.15pm
Easter Break		
8 Apr	School reopens for children	8.30am
18 Apr	Class Photos	am
6 May	School closed for Bank Holiday	All day
13 May	Year 6 SATS week	
17 May	Year 6 Forest School Hicks Lodge	
24 May	PTFA Friday Funday / Spring Fair	
24 May	School closes for Half Term	3.15pm
May Half term		
3 Jun	School reopens for children	8.30am
3 Jun	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
10 Jun	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
10 Jun	Year 1 phonics check week begins	
TBC	Saffron Lane- NWLSSP sporting event, selected KS2 children TBC	
14 Jun	Sports Day- School field refreshments provided by the PTFA	1.00pm
26 Jun	Ashby School Induction Day for Year 6	
27 Jun	Reserve Date for Sports Day- in case of wet weather	1.00pm

3 Jul	End of Year Reports out to parents	
4 Jul	In-school move up morning EYFS to Year 5	am
4 Jul	Open Evening to look at books and discuss reports	3.15pm-4.15pm
5 Jul	Year 6 Leavers performance	2.00pm
8 Jul	Year 6 Drayton Manor Reward Trip	All day
9 Jul	Year 6 Leavers Lunch	
9 Jul	Last day of the school year	
Summer Break- have a wonderful Summer!		
27 Aug	School reopens for children	8.30am