



Newsletter

Positive Ambitious Nurturing

Friday 11th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a lovely few weeks at Donisthorpe and it's been so nice to be able to enjoy some slightly warmer weather! The summer term will soon be upon us and it is always a busy one, we will have so much to fit into the next 9 and a half weeks! Please do keep a close eye on the dates at the end of this newsletter, so that you don't miss anything!

Farwell...for now

I wrote to you a number of weeks ago to share the lovely news of Miss Dennis' pregnancy- today is her last day at Donisthorpe! We wish her all the best over the next few weeks and are looking forward to news of her baby's safe arrival!

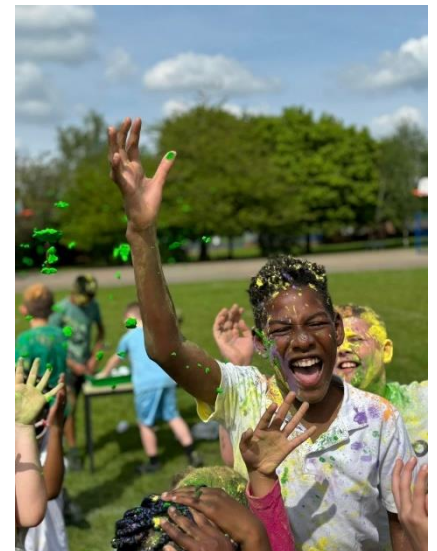
Farwell

This week also saw the last week in school for Mrs Cole- our wonderful French teacher. She has been working with our children for 11 years and is the reason the children fly in modern foreign languages at high school! We are all so sad to say goodbye to her! We wish her all the best in the future.

Exciting News: Colour Dash Fundraiser!

This week in assembly, the children were delighted to welcome a special visitor – Nichola from LCH, a local children's charity. LCH supports young people across Leicestershire, Rutland, and parts of the East Midlands in a variety of ways. This includes funding for school trips, holidays and short breaks, access to mental health support, essential items like clothing, toiletries, school uniforms and equipment plus opportunities to take part in hobbies or sports.

We are proud to have recently begun working in partnership with LCH and, some of our children have already benefited from their fantastic support. The children were thrilled to find out they've been invited to take part in a **sponsored Colour Dash**, organised by the school, LCH and our school council.



LCH provides everything we need to run the event, including colourful paint, kits, and prizes for all participants – at no cost to the school. All they ask in return is your help in gathering sponsorship for your child. It's a great opportunity to talk with your child about fundraising and the vital role charities play, especially those working in our local community.

The Colour Dash will take place on the afternoon of Friday 23rd May, here at school. We'll be sending out further details and sponsor forms after the Easter break.

- 🚩 To learn more about the work of LCH, please visit their website: <https://lchcharity.co.uk/>
- 🚩 You can also watch a short video from another school's Colour Dash here: [Watch on YouTube](#)

More exciting news!

We have recently found out that we will be receiving some funding from the Local Authority. This is called section 106 funding and is as a result of building in the local area. This money must be used to improve the **educational facilities** at our school.

We are hoping that the money will be able to fund the following projects:

EYFS Classroom Move

- Relocating the EYFS class to the large double mobile classroom (formally the Monkey Club Premises)
- A new sensory room, eliminating the need to transport dysregulated learners through the main building, which currently adds distress to overwhelmed children.
- Additional space will be utilised for intervention and quiet areas to better support speech, language, and communication needs.
- The new EYFS classroom has an open outdoor space that is currently exposed to the elements, making it difficult to use this space, with the changing weather conditions. Installing a canopy will allow children to access the outdoor area in all weather conditions, facilitating continuous play-based learning.



Year 1 and Year 2 canopy



Year 1 & 2 Outdoor Canopy

- Recently installed doors provide direct access to an outdoor area from the Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms.
- To maximize the use of this space in all weather conditions, a canopy installation is required.

Outdoor Classroom/Equipment Development

- Our school is fortunate to have an 11-acre field, which we aim to utilize more frequently for outdoor learning.
- We propose the installation of a large outdoor structure with seating for 30 children.
- A stone pathway will be added to ensure year-round accessibility to the outdoor classroom from the main school site.
- A new climbing and adventure space will be added next to the outdoor classroom on the field.



New intervention hub

- The vacant EYFS classroom will be transformed into a bespoke intervention space. Allowing for the high level needs pupils on our role to be taught in a calm environment where they will receive expert targeted support to meet their needs.
- Toilets will need to be modified to adults sized to meet needs of a range of learners.

Over the next term we hope that some of this work will begin! So, watch this space for updates!

Beyond Bullying Award

At Donisthorpe Primary School we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for our pupils, so they can learn and play in a secure environment. The school treats all reported incidents of bullying-type-behaviour and bullying seriously. We are always talking to the children in school about the importance of following the Donisthorpe Way and using their character muscles to ensure that they become the best version of themselves.

We are a 'telling school': all pupils and adults should be able to tell someone they trust and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. Anyone who knows that bullying is happening is also expected to tell someone they trust. Our pupils are encouraged to be a power for good to make our school a safe and welcoming place.



Our proactive strategies include:

- We are a listening and telling school. This is the message that is promoted at all times and with all audiences. There is an agreed collective responsibility to address any incidents of bullying observed.
- Annually the issue of bullying will be raised in order to maintain awareness of the issue through school assemblies and prominent pictorial displays and posters.
- Every opportunity to promote whole school initiatives such as anti-bullying week, theatre productions and external speakers will be taken.
- Ensuring our entire school community, including parents, understand what bullying actually is and the difference between someone just doing something thoughtless or silly, or a minor fall out with their friend and genuine bullying.
- We use the STOP definition. All children are taught what is bullying, what they should do and have people who they can tell.
- We teach children that bullying is: Several Times On Purpose and the way to stop it is to Start Telling Other People.

Nut Free School

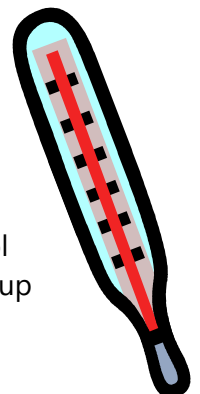
Please remember that we have some children in school with very serious nut allergies. We are a nut free school and do not allow nuts or nut-based products in school at lunchtimes or at break times. Thank you for your support.

Illness in school

If your child is ill and cannot attend school, please call 01530 270371 or email the school office, office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk on the first morning ideally by 9.30am using option 1 to leave a message. If your child has a medical appointment during the school day, please email the school office explaining the absence and, at what time you would like to collect them from reception. If the appointment is before school, please inform the office if your child requires a hot meal, as these must be ordered by 9.30 am.

To help us keep children healthy, we ask parents to keep children at home when they have sickness or diarrhoea or any other infectious condition. We ask that children remain at home for **48 hours** from their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea so that they are fully recovered and to avoid spreading the illness to others.

If your child becomes ill at school and needs to go home, we will contact you straight away. If you change your email address or phone numbers, it is essential that you inform the school office straight away so that they can keep the contact information for your child current and up to date.



End of Key Stage SATS

SATs week for our current Year 6 children will take place from Monday 12th May 2025 with the last test being on Thursday 15th May.

If you have any questions, please telephone school 01530 270371 or email office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk.

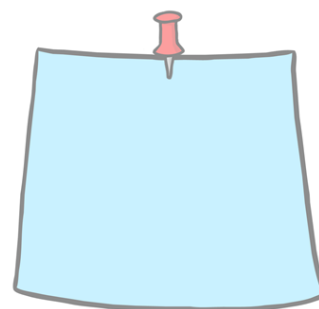
Regards,



Sylvie Newman

2024-2025 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. **New dates will be added in red!**



11 April	School closes for Easter	3.15pm
Easter Break		
28 April	School reopens for children	8.30am
28 April	Wellbeing day for children in school	
5 May	School closed for Bank Holiday	All day
8 May	VE Day Party	
9 May	Forest School Year 5 on site	All day
12 May	Year 6 SATS week	
16 May	Forest School Year 6 on site	All day
20 May	Class Photographs	AM
21 May	Forest School Year 4 on site	All day
23 May	LCH Charity Colour Run	PM
23 May	School closes for half term	3.15pm
May Half term		
2 June	School reopens for children	8.30am
2 June	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
3 June	Year 5 The National Arboretum	All day
6 June	Forest School Year 3 on site	All day
9 June	Forest School Year 2 on site	All day
9 June	Year 1 phonics check week begins	
11 June	Saffron Lane NWLSSP sporting event, selected KS2 children TBC	
12 June	Forest School Year 1 on site	All day
13 June	Sports Day- School field refreshments provided by the PTFA / Father's Day Krispy Kreme doughnuts	1.00pm
16 June	Forest School EYFS on site	All day
23 June	Reserve Date for Sports Day- in case of wet weather	1.00pm
25 June	Yr5 Solar Farm Visit – am Workshop in School	12.30pm to 2.30pm
27 June	Years 3 and 4 Thinktank Birmingham Science Museum	All day
27 June	EYFS / Year 1 Forest School on site	
1 July	End of Year Reports out to parents	

1 July	Open Evening to look at books and discuss reports	3.15pm-4.15pm
2 July	In school move up morning EYFS to Year 5	am
4 July	EYFS / Year 1 Forest School on site	
TBC	Year 6 Leavers performance	2.00pm
8 July	Last day of the school year	
Summer Break- have a wonderful Summer!		
26 August	School reopens for children	8.30am