



Newsletter

Positive Ambitious Nurturing

Friday 10th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! A very warm 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.



Snowy Weather

Thank you all so much for your support and patience this week as we returned on Monday to very unexpected snow! We will always do our best to stay open in these situations but should we have a repeat of this extreme weather I wanted to share our procedures for notifying you about school closures due to snow.

Mr Williamson and I monitor weather conditions closely and aim to reach a decision regarding school closure by 7:00 am, on the day in question. We understand the importance of providing you with ample time to make alternative arrangements for your children's care and to ensure everyone's safety.

Once the decision to close the school is made, we will promptly inform all staff and parents by our text messaging service. Our goal is to reach each of you no later than 7:15am on the day of the potential closure.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we prioritise the safety and well-being of our children, staff, and families. Decisions around school closure due to snow are made in conjunction with governors and other local Symphony headteachers. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact school. Thank you for your continued support.

Rainbows Hospice

Thank you all so much for your kind donations for Rainbows Hospice following the school Christmas performances. We raised an amazing £676 for this wonderful charity.

Parents Evening

Parents evening this term will take place on Monday 10th February and Wednesday 12th 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 7th 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 do let the school office know, office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk so that we are able to contact you should there be an emergency. Any other details such as change of address; email or other emergency contact or collection information should be given to the office too. Many thanks.



Good news!

I wanted to share the good news that Miss Weir, one of our classroom assistants and manager of the before and after school club is expecting a baby! I'm sure you will all join me in congratulating her and the family.

NHS Pharmacy First Service

I have been asked to let you know about an NHS service, which is available in Boots pharmacies across England, called the **NHS Pharmacy First Service**.

What is Pharmacy First?

The NHS-funded service enables children and adults to get convenient access to advice and treatment where appropriate for seven common conditions, without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment. There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into a local Boots pharmacy with your child and ask for help under the service.



The service supports with the following conditions for people in the age groups specified below:

- **Earache** (aged 1 to 17 years)
- **Impetigo** (aged 1 year and over)
- **Infected insect bites and stings** (aged 1 year and over)
- **Sore throats** (aged 5 years and over)
- **Sinusitis** (aged 12 years and over)
- **Uncomplicated urinary tract infections** (UTIs) in women (aged 16 to 64 years)
- **Shingles** (aged 18 years and over)

The ill person will see a pharmacist in a private consultation room. The pharmacist will provide advice and, if clinically appropriate, offer to supply treatment for the condition. If treatment is provided, an electronic message will be sent to the person's GP surgery so their health record can be updated.

Should the pharmacist be unable to help, they will direct the person to their GP surgery or other healthcare professional, as appropriate.

With the ever-increasing pressures on the NHS, particularly during these busy winter months, it is important that we do all we help in driving awareness of this fantastic service. Remember think **Pharmacy First**.

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 what are really busy times of the day. Thank you.

Pupil Premium Funding

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register for 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 residential
- 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.

The deadline for applying for a Primary School place is **15th January 2025**. For applications, the simplest way is online at: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools-colleges-and-academies/school-admissions>

If you need any further information, please contact the Admissions team on admissions@leics.gov.uk or 0116 305 6684.

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

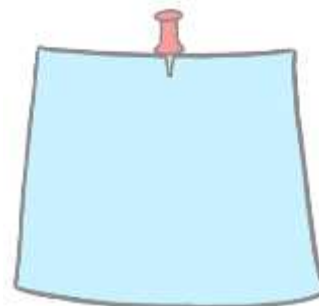
Regards,



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!**



Spring Term 2025		
6 Jan	School reopens for children	8.30am
6 Jan	Wellbeing day for children in school	
29 Jan	Young Voices	
7 Feb	Mid-Year reports sent home	
10 Feb	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
11 Feb	Safer Internet Day	
12 Feb	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
14 Feb	School closes for half term	3.15pm
February Half term		
24 Feb	School reopens for children	8.30am
26 Feb	Year 1 Phonics Meeting for parents	5.00pm
6 Mar	World Book Day PTFA event selling books in the playground after school	All day
28 Mar	PTFA Mother's Day pop up shop	
8 Apr	Year 6 Warning Zone	All day
11 Apr	School closes for Easter	3.15pm
Easter Break		
28 Apr	School reopens for children	8.30am
28 Apr	Wellbeing day for children in school	
5 May	School closed for Bank Holiday	All day
8 May	Forest School Year 5 Hicks Lodge	All day
12 May	Year 6 SATS week	
16 May	Forest School Year 6 Hicks Lodge	All day
21 May	Forest School Year 4 Hicks Lodge	All day
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	
4 June	Forest School Year 3 at school	All day
9 June	Forest School Year 2 at school	All day

9 June	Year 1 phonics check week begins	
12 June	Forest School Year 1 at school	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 at school	All day
TBC	Saffron Lane- NWLSSP sporting event, selected KS2 children TBC	
23 June	Reserve Date for Sports Day- in case of wet weather	1.00pm
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
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