



# Newsletter

Positive Ambitious Nurturing

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn term is well underway, and is proving to be a busy and industrious one for us all! Today we took part in odd socks day to mark the start of Anti-Bullying Week.

### **Anti-Bullying Week (Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> November)**

We are always talking to the children in school about the importance of following the Donisthorpe Way and using our character muscles to ensure that we become the best version of ourselves. Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> November is Anti-bullying week; a time when we spotlight the subject and talk to the children about the kind of positive behaviour that we always encourage at Donisthorpe. We always try to reframe the week into something really positive, but it is really important that children know what bullying is and who can help them if they are worried about it. We will be increasing the children's awareness of banter/teasing and how, although it can look harmless from the outside, it can be very hurtful and become a disguised form of bullying. We will be using age appropriate story books as a starting point for further work and discussion.



On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November in school we will hold a special assembly to commemorate Remembrance Day, honouring those who have lost their lives in combat during wartime. The children also will gather together outside to show their respect during the two minutes' silence. Thank you also for donating so very generously this year through our school based collection tin to the Royal British legion and for wearing your poppies with pride.

### **Children in Need- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

To help raise money for this fantastic cause, on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November** we will be joining in with this year's challenge appeals. We would like to challenge children to come to school wearing something to make their class mates smile! This can be literally anything! As simple as non-uniform, or as funny as pants on your head or crazy hair! Please bring a cash donation of whatever you can spare. Thank you for your continued support. The School councillors will be collecting your donations on the gates on Friday morning!



### **Stay Safe Online**

We are constantly updating our thoughts and actions when navigating the online world. Building digital resilience and the ability to recognise when you are at risk online is a key element to being safe online. A resilient child is more likely to stay safe if anything bad happens and benefit from the opportunities the online world provides.

How can we help to develop this? It is important that while we may not understand all the apps or devices they use, we do have thoughts about what is good and bad/ right and wrong in the world and sharing these values is a fantastic way to process their experiences. By shutting down on difficult issues they become more, rather than less frightening. What has been seen cannot be unseen. However, talking together and making sense of the information will make a difference. We can teach our children to be critical thinkers so that they can make sensible judgements about what they are seeing and doing. Children do need to take risks and learn that they can recover when things go wrong and with our help and guidance they will develop ways to recognise when they are at risk.

### **Ways you could guide your children:**

- Talk to your children about the risks (particularly sexting).
- Explore ways, with your child, to report things to the app/site that have worried them.
- Create 'screen-free time' for the whole family. Enjoy time together doing something outdoors or creative.
- Be curious and better understand the online world they live in. Find time to show an interest in the sites they use and discuss times they have felt uncomfortable online. Talk together and if you feel that parental antennae tingling: delve deeper.

You are the parent. What you say goes. Make sure you stick to boundaries and build a healthy relationship with digital media.

These are the modern troubles our children face. They may not be issues we can understand but it is our job to find out so that we can guide and empathize. Their future happiness may well depend on how good their relationship is with digital media.

Further information can be found here:

[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

Tel: 0800 1111

Parent helpline 0808 800 5000



### **Christmas Celebrations**

#### **EYFS Celebration with friends a new date for your diary!**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024 9.00am to 10.30am.**

This year our EYFS children will be celebrating Christmas in school differently! Each child will be able to invite one special family visitor to join them in the hall for a Christmassy morning of fun. There will be a craft activity for you to do together, refreshments and the children will be singing some Christmas songs. More information will be provided nearer the time.

### **Christmas Service Years 1 to 6**

We are currently discussing in school the logistics for our planned celebration. We are still hoping to perform for you all at The Village Heart at St Johns on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, however we are unsure due to the size of the space, what form this will take. We will contact you with more details next week.



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](mailto:admissions@leics.gov.uk) or 0116 305 6684.

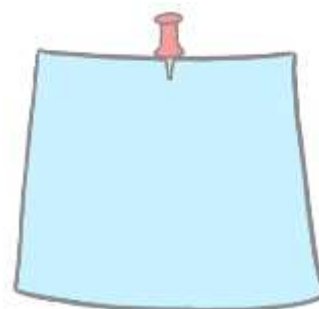
If you have any questions about this or anything else, please telephone school or email [office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk](mailto:office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk)

Regards,

Sylvie Newman  
Executive Headteacher

## 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!**



<b>11 Nov</b>	Anti-Bullying Week	
<b>11 Nov</b>	Remembrance Day	
<b>14 Nov</b>	Year 5 Swimming	pm
<b>15 Nov</b>	Children in Need	
<b>21 Nov</b>	Year 5 Swimming	pm
<b>22 Nov</b>	Open classroom- parents are invited to see the children's classroom and look at their work so far!	2.45pm to 3.30pm
<b>28 Nov</b>	Year 5 Swimming	pm
<b>5 Dec</b>	Year 5 Swimming- last session	pm
<b>5 Dec</b>	<b>PTFA Christmas Fair</b>	
<b>13 Dec</b>	<b>EYFS Christmas Crafts</b>	<b>9.00 am – 10.30 am</b>
<b>18 Dec</b>	Year 1 to Year 6 Christmas service at the newly refurbished St John' Church- this will include the nativity by Year 1/2	9.30am
<b>19 Dec</b>	Christmas dinner	
<b>20 Dec</b>	School closes for Christmas	3.15pm
<b>Christmas Break</b>		
<b>6 Jan</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>6 Jan</b>	Wellbeing day for children in school	
<b>29 Jan</b>	Young Voices	
<b>7 Feb</b>	Mid-Year reports sent home	
<b>10 Feb</b>	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm

<b>11Feb</b>	Safer Internet Day	
<b>12 Feb</b>	Parents Evening face to face	3.30pm to 7.00pm
<b>14 Feb</b>	School closes for half term	3.15pm
<b>February Half term</b>		
<b>24 Feb</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>26 Feb</b>	Year 1 Phonics Meeting for parents	5.00pm
<b>6 Mar</b>	World Book Day PTFA event selling books in the playground after school	All day
<b>28 Mar</b>	PTFA Mother's Day pop up shop	
<b>8 Apr</b>	<b>Year 6 Warning Zone</b>	All day
<b>11 April</b>	School closes for Easter	3.15pm
<b>Easter Break</b>		
<b>28 April</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>28 April</b>	Wellbeing day for children in school	
<b>5 May</b>	School closed for Bank Holiday	All day
<b>8 May</b>	Forest School Year 5 Hicks Lodge	All day
<b>12 May</b>	Year 6 SATS week	
<b>16 May</b>	Forest School Year 6 Hicks Lodge	All day
<b>21 May</b>	Forest School Year 4 Hicks Lodge	All day
<b>23 May</b>	School closes for half term	3.15pm
<b>May Half term</b>		
<b>2 June</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am
<b>2 June</b>	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
<b>4 June</b>	Forest School Year 3 at school	All day
<b>9 June</b>	Forest School Year 2 at school	All day
<b>9 June</b>	Year 1 phonics check week begins	
<b>12 June</b>	Forest School Year 1 at school	All day
<b>13 June</b>	Sports Day- School field refreshments provided by the PTFA / Father's Day Krispy Kreme doughnuts	1.00pm
<b>16 June</b>	Forest School EYFS at school	All day
<b>TBC</b>	Saffron Lane- NWLSSP sporting event, selected KS2 children TBC	
<b>23 June</b>	Reserve Date for Sports Day- in case of wet weather	1.00pm
<b>1 July</b>	End of Year Reports out to parents	
<b>1 July</b>	Open Evening to look at books and discuss reports	3.15pm-4.15pm
<b>2 July</b>	In school move up morning EYFS to Year 5	am
<b>TBC</b>	Year 6 Leavers performance	2.00pm
<b>8 July</b>	Last day of the school year	
<b>Summer Break- have a wonderful Summer!</b>		
<b>26 August</b>	School reopens for children	8.30am

