



Newsletter

Positive Ambitious Nurturing

Friday 18th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another busy few weeks at school, this week was our Everyone Belongs Week, which was a huge success! Children spent the week learning more about different countries and cultures, embracing differences and similarities- they have all learnt so much. Don't forget to ask them about this when they come home!

The autumn weather has certainly arrived; it's been a very wet and windy week! As you know the British weather can be very changeable so even if the forecast looks milder for the day, we can sometimes have had four seasons by home time! Please make sure that your children **bring a coat to school every day** so that we can take the learning outside- whatever the weather!



Harvest Festival 2024

It was so nice to be back at St John's in Donisthorpe- even if it was still a bit of a squeeze! Our Key Stage 2 children were absolutely amazing and it was so nice that so many of you could join us for this year's service. Thank you as well for your kind donations for The Marlene Reid Centre.

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 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!



Odd Sock Day

This year we will once again be taking part in odd sock day! Odd Sock Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. **On Friday 8th November**, to celebrate what makes us all unique, we would like all of the children to wear Odd Socks with their school uniforms. You do not need to bring in any money!

Anti-Bullying Week (Week beginning 11th 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 11th 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.

Children in Need- Friday 15th November

To help raise money for this fantastic cause, on **Friday 15th 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!



Pupil Premium Funding

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

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 residentials
- 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.



Thank you!

As school budgets continue to shrink, we are increasingly relying on the kindness of our school community.

We would like to say a huge thank you to **RSS Infrastructure**. When the company heard that our PTFA had been raising money for technology to aid our Computing curriculum, they donated five laptops to us. Thank you so much - our children will certainly benefit from such a kind donation!



We would also like to thank **Revitalize Cleaning Specialists** who donated their time to clean our guttering! They have done an excellent job!



Teams 4U Christmas Shoe box appeal

Founded in 2006 by Dave Cooke, Teams 4U is a charity that works to support communities, young people and children who are experiencing poverty and war. Their work has included many projects, from building health clinics to schools, but in 2012, they started their 'Give love in a Box', Christmas shoe box campaign. Each shoe box that is kindly filled with treats and essentials, wrapped in Christmas paper, and donated to the charity, is then distributed to children and families around Europe and the UK.

Their leaflets (available in school) and their website, give suggestions of what to put into the box, based on age and gender, along with items that are not permitted.

This year, Donisthorpe School is acting as a drop off point, so please follow the link or ask for a leaflet, and get involved to help make a child's Christmas special this year.

<https://teams4u.com/shoebox-appeal/>

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) will hold open evenings over the next few weeks. Information concerning these schools is available from the individual establishments. The deadline for applying for a Secondary School place is **31st October 2024**.



Ibstock Community College
Respect and Pride brings Success

Apply for a School Place- Primary

The deadline for applying for a Primary School place is **15th January 2025**. 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 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 or email office@donisthorpe.leics.sch.uk

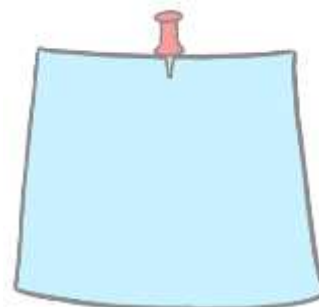
Regards,



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!**



18 Oct	Forest School EYFS at school	All day
18 Oct	School closes for half term	3.15pm
October Half term		
28 Oct	School reopens	8.30am
28 Oct	School photos	
30 Oct	Year 6 Residential	
30 Oct	Yr1 Yr2 Visit to West Midlands Safari Park	All day
31 Oct	Year 5 Swimming begins	pm
31 Oct	PTFA Halloween dress up day – for a donation	
1 Nov	Year 6 Residential returns	
7 Nov	Year 5 Swimming	pm
8 Nov	Odd Sock Day- children can come to school wearing Odd Socks with their uniforms!	All day
8 Nov	Individual Photographs	
11 Nov	Anti-Bullying Week	
11 Nov	Remembrance Day	
14 Nov	Year 5 Swimming	pm
15 Nov	Children in Need details TBC	
21 Nov	Year 5 Swimming	pm
22 Nov	Open classroom- parents are invited to see the children's classroom and look at their work so far!	2.45pm to 3.30pm
28 Nov	Year 5 Swimming	pm
5 Dec	Year 5 Swimming- last session	pm
13 Dec	EYFS Christmas Crafts	
18 Dec	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
19 Dec	Christmas dinner	
20 Dec	School closes for Christmas	3.15pm
Christmas Break		
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
11Feb	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	
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	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

