

March Newsletter



It's nearly Easter!

This term has flown by and has been incredibly busy. We are looking forward to the summer term - hopefully with a little less rain and a lot more sunshine!

In the key dates below, I have tried to give as much notice as possible of summer term event, please be aware some of these details are not yet finalised and some are provisional at this stage. Further information will follow in the coming weeks.

Staffing

Victoria Vince will be moving to Donington Cowley after Easter. Although she will be based at our partnership school, I am sure we will still be seeing her at St Gilberts. We wish her luck in her new role!

Sarah Bach has been working with the school since September and is officially joining the school after Easter as School Bursar. We look forward to welcoming her to our team.



Attendance

We have only 63 school days left this year!! You will receive attendance information at the beginning of next term.

Why is Attendance Important?

Children who are in school and on time every day do better than those who are not. It's a fact! Even children whose attendance is 90% will have missed 19 school days over the year and will struggle to achieve their targets. So here is what we do to encourage good attendance at Donington Cowley Endowed Primary School:

Weekly - Arlo the school dog will spend time with the class with the highest attendance.

Yearly - Every child who achieves 100% attendance for the whole year will receive a certificate on the last day of the school year.

What do I do if my child is ill?

If your child is absent from school, please phone us as soon as you can. For safety reasons, we operate a thorough absence monitoring procedure, so early notification is crucial.

Where a fixed penalty notice may be issued

Fixed term penalties will only be issued in circumstances where the LA is satisfied that the criteria for prosecution would be met if the option of a fixed penalty notice is not taken up by the parent. The circumstances in which a notice may be issued are:

- Where a child is absent from school due to unauthorised absence of 10% or over a six-week period.
- Where a child is present in a public place during school hours without reasonable justification during the first five days of any exclusion.

Wellbeing

Everybody's wellbeing is important! Over the coming months we will be arranging for some focussed coffee mornings to share resources and information.

Please contact Mrs Millard if you feel that your child needs support.

SEND

Autism Awareness Day - 28th March

We will be raising awareness of Autism on Thursday 28th March, and we would like to invite children to attend in *colourful* clothing to celebrate everyone's uniqueness. Furthermore, we would love to welcome our parents/ Carers to St Gilbert's Cof E Primary School and Nursery at 10am for a parent workshop and a coffee. No need to book, just turn up.

Statutory Assessments - KS2 SATs (Year 6s)

These statutory assessments take place from Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May 2024 and includes a Reading paper, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar and 3 maths papers which are spread over the four days. On these days, the Year 6s can come to school and have breakfast before they complete the tests.

Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) (Year 4s)

The MTC takes place over a two-week period starting on Monday 3rd June. The test takes approximately 15 minutes, and the children will have opportunities to practise beforehand. The sound check on TTRS also allows the children to practise the style of questions.

Phonics Screening (Year 1s)

There is a phonics screening check for all Year 1 children which takes place during the week beginning Monday 10th June and takes approximately 20 minutes.



Parking Reminder

A polite reminder to please NOT park on the Zig-Zag lines outside of the school. They are there to protect the safety of the children, and parents, when attending school. Please also be care when choosing somewhere to park along the road, to make sure that it is not inhibiting people going in and out of the road opposite or indeed entering or exiting their driveways. Thank you!

Sign in APP

We have set up a new 'signing in' system at the front office. We would like to ask parents and carers to please sign your child in and out of school, if your child leaves school during the day to attend an appointment or is unwell. If your child is unavoidably late to school, then can you please sign them in. Children that come in late on their own will have to sign themselves in (please inform your child to do so).

Wishing you all a Happy Easter from the School Office team.



Fundraising Volunteer Group

Our amazing team of parent and staff fundraising volunteers have been busy with our Easter Eggstravaganza, selling Easter squares and hosting an Easter bonnet competition with the hope of the children winning Easter eggs, as well as holding a bake sale to raise money for the school.

We had some incredible donations of Easter eggs and prizes from friends of the school and local businesses including Billingborough Coop. A huge thank you to all for your generosity and support.

We are also beginning to plan our much anticipated and enjoyed Summer Fayre which will be held on Friday 5th July. It is the perfect opportunity to get together with family and friends before the summer break. More details on this to follow soon.

Our next fundraising meeting will be Tuesday 16th April, all are welcome to join.

Comic Relief – Following Red Nose Day last Friday, we raised **£53.90**



Autism Awareness Day - 28th March

We will once again be raising awareness of Autism on this day and invite children to attend in colourful clothing to celebrate everyone's uniqueness.



MARCH

28th Autism Awareness Day - Colourful clothing to school and *End of Spring Term 2*



APRIL

16th Start of Summer Term 1

MAY

6th Bank Holiday School closed
Week commencing 13th KS2 SATs
Week commencing 20th KS1 SATs
Week commencing 27th Half Term

JUNE

Week commencing 3rd and 10th Y4 Multiplication check
6th EYFS Trip Sundown Adventureland
Week commencing 10th Phonics Screening Check
20th Sports Day
24th Yr 6 Residential
28th Non-Uniform School Fundraiser - Bring a Bottle
28th Disco

JULY

3rd KS1 Trip Provisional - details to be confirmed
5th Summer Fayre
11th KS2 Production
12th Reports Out
19th Break up for academic year 2023/2024