

# **DONNINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**



## **AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER**

**8<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

As we move rapidly towards the Christmas holidays there are a great number of events and activities taking place. If your child's class has not yet had their Friday Class Assembly, please check 'Other Important Dates' over the page to see when that is coming up. All pupils love to see their parents supporting them at these events. We have been treated to a performance of a great book by Year 2 titled 'On My Way Home'. Year 4's Remembrance Assembly today was also fantastic.

Already this half term we have had a workshop for Years 3 & 4 for their Ancient Greek topic. Other exciting opportunities this half term include: A Wizard Theatre Performance, Money workshops, Fire Brigade Training for Years 2 & 5 and Theatre Trips for Years 5 and 6.

### **FODS**

Thank you to all those who attended the Spooky Party last Friday evening. By attending FODS events our school community has an opportunity to meet and get to know each other. Your support for FODS events is hugely important to the school community as FODS provides financial support for those extra activities that enrich all pupils learning. We will let you know as soon as possible how much was raised from the Spooky Party.

### **WINTER FAIR**

Please note that the next event is the Winter Fair which will be held in the Assembly Hall on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Each class will make items to be sold, so please come along and support your child, as well as supporting FODS fund raising.

### **ARCHIE AND SKYE**

One fundraising effort within school is our continued support for the training of two Guide Dogs for the Blind, Archie and Skye.

Each class has an opportunity to raise funds over the course of the year. Congratulations to Year 2 for raising a fantastic **£80.61** towards this initiative. Year 5 will be the next class to raise funds and this will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November.

### **BBC CHILDREN IN NEED**

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November we will take part in this National event. The School Council has decided that we should wear something **spotty** on the day.

### **NEW INITIATIVES**

This term has seen two new initiatives start. The Before School Activities Club is well attended and we hope it has been beneficial. The free bagels initiative each morning has been received well and will continue throughout the year as part of the National School Breakfast Programme to ensure every child has the opportunity to have some breakfast before learning begins.

### **BASKETBALL**

As part of improving the range of games pupils can play, Years 3 and 4 are being given five free sessions from a basketball coach. It also allows for staff coaching from a professional as part of their development.

## PARENT/TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

As this is the first opportunity this year for you to discuss the progress of your child with the Class Teacher, please ensure that you attend Parents Evening. This conversation is vital to your child's continued progress for the rest of the year.

A letter has been sent home today for pupils from Years 1 to 6 giving the time for your appointment.

Please ensure you attend or let the Class Teacher or School Office know if for any reason you are unable to attend.

It is imperative that parents arrange another time to meet the Class Teacher as communication between home and school is vital for your child's best learning.

**Kevin Minns, Headteacher**

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY REMINDER

Welcome back and thank you for helping your children to be in school and on time every day.

**Please note that school finishes for the end of the Autumn Term at 2:30pm on Thursday 19th December and all children are expected to return on Monday 6th January.**

Additional leave before or after these dates for the purposes of a holiday will not be granted and may result in an Education Penalty Notice being issued. If a child is absent due to illness immediately prior to or after a school holiday break, the school will request medical evidence of the illness (appointment card, prescription or doctor's note).

If you are planning to travel over the holidays, please ensure that your dates of travel ensure that your children will be back in school on time at the start of the Spring Term. **Attendance at school is an investment in your child's education and school experiences.**

**Ms S. Adae, Deputy Headteacher & Attendance Co-ordinator**

## WINTER COATS

A gentle reminder please about putting your child's name in their coat or any item of clothing. Missing items can then be easily returned and also ensures that your purchasing of a quite expensive garment does not go to waste.

## 'CHILDREN CAN ONLY ASPIRE TO WHAT THEY KNOW EXISTS'

We would very much like to hear from parents willing to come into school to speak to the children about their work life, jobs, career opportunities, volunteering etc.

Please leave a message with the School Office if you are interested and I will be in touch to arrange a visit.

**Mrs S. Adae, Deputy Headteacher**

## OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

### NOVEMBER

**Monday 11<sup>TH</sup> Nov**

**2 minute silence by all at 11 o'clock**

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Nov**

**BBC Children in Need**

**Year 1 class assembly at 9.10**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov**

**Year 3 class assembly at 9.10**

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov**

**Reception Class assembly at 9.10**

### DECEMBER

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Christmas performances: EYFS & KS1-am, KS2-pm**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Whole school singing for Rosemary House  
Class parties**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**School finishes for the Christmas break at 2.30pm**

## THANK YOU!

I would just like to say a huge thank you to all our wonderful Donnington parents and families for your very kind words and gifts on my retirement. It has always been my privilege to have served you all in my small way.

**Angela McAllister**