

Attendance

We are nearly at the end of this academic year... only 14 more mornings of getting up and getting ready for school!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our families for their support with attendance this year. We do understand that sometimes there are struggles which make coming to school difficult for families so please continue to communicate with school so we can put any support needed in place.



Classes

As the end of this academic year approaches we begin to think ahead to September 2024. Due to the nature of our reception intake, with our pupil admission number set designated as 40 by the local authority, we review our class structure each year. Next year the following classes will be in place:

Ladybirds- Reception/ Year 1- Mr Smith

Dragonflies- Reception/ Year 1- Miss Rolfe

Rabbits- Year 1/2- Miss Tyler

Hedgehogs- Year 1/2- Miss Gilhespy

Moles- Year 3/4- Miss Allen

Squirrels- Year 3/4 – Mr Carr

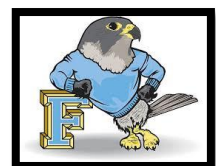
Badgers- Year 3/4 – Mrs Ogden/ Mrs Williams

Kestrels- Year 5/6- Mr Scholey

Hawks- Year 5/6- Miss Winfield

Falcons- Year 5/6- Mrs Mann

Class allocations will be finalised and indicated in your child's end of year report on Friday 12th July and there will be a transition morning for all children on Thursday 18th July.



Staffing

At the end of this academic year we will be saying farewell to Mrs Julie Baxter and Mrs Debra Hutson who are both looking forward to a well deserved happy retirement.

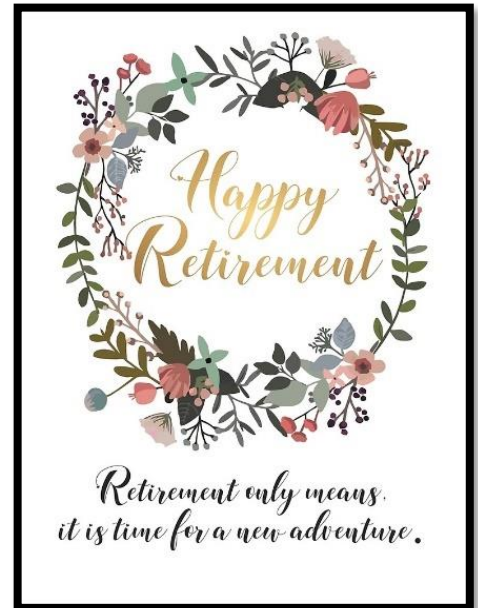
Mrs Hutson has worked at the school for many years, teaching across all classes and leading our school council. She will be hugely missed but will be keeping in touch and we will be seeing her again as a visitor to our school.

Mrs Baxter has worked in our school office for over 20 years. Many of our families may even remember her from their own school days! Mrs Baxter's commitment to our school cannot be understated and we will be incredibly sad to say goodbye yet look forward to welcoming her as a guest of honour at many of our forthcoming events.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer the greatest of thanks to both Mrs Baxter and Mrs Hutson for their dedication to the children, families and staff at Donington Cowley Endowed Primary School and wish them every happiness for the future.

Mrs Julie Wadsworth who works as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant supporting one of our Year 6 pupils will also be leaving us at the end of this academic year. Mrs Wadsworth has worked across our key stage 2 classes during her time at our school. We will greatly miss her, wish her every success for the future and hope to welcome her back as a visitor to the school.

Mrs Faye Tubb has an exciting opportunity to develop her leadership role across our school partnership with St Gilbert's. Mrs Tubb will be working in both schools as Key Stage 1 Leader and Designated Senior Teacher. I would like to congratulate her on her new role and look forward to working with her on both school sites.



Sensory Garden Opening

On Friday 7th June, we were delighted to officially open our amazing Sensory Garden. We were joined by members of our school council, PTFA, Governors, Cowley Trusts and representatives from Willow Homes who completed the design and installation of this fantastic new facility.

This project has been planned over several months to ensure the highest quality of design criteria, providing a welcoming and calming sensory space for reflection, mindfulness and sensory integration. It has been fantastic seeing all the children enjoying our new space and hearing what their favourite parts of the Sensory Garden are. The children are very much enjoying the water feature at the moment!



Choir

Both choirs have been working incredibly hard over the last few weeks. We were very proud to hold our first Choir Recital to showcase the songs they have been learning. It was great to be able to invite the children's families into school to listen to their performance.

Our Key Stage 2 choir sang at the Year 6 Gala dinner and entertained the parents as they were welcomed into school at this very special event.

The next choir event will be the Mathew Flinders church service which will be on Friday the 12th of July. This is for our Key Stage 2 choir, and they have been learning some brand new and very exciting songs for this event.



We are so proud of both choirs and how hard they have worked this past year. We can't wait to start again in September.

Topic Days with St Gilberts

Years 1 & 2

Years 1 & 2 joined together for a day of exciting activities relating to our summer topic "Planes, Trains and Automobiles". We had a fire engine, lorry, campervan, tractor, sports car, motorbike and fold up bike for the children to look at and climb into! It was very exciting. The children also got to ask the drivers lots of questions.

During the day, the children also made rockets, paper aeroplanes, boats and parachutes which they were able to test out. They also had a fantastic experience in the immersive suite where they could "ride" a huge rollercoaster, watch aeroplanes flying through the sky and zoom into space to see all the different planets!



Year 3 & 4

Years 3 & 4 enjoyed an Ancient Greek day here at Donington.

The children were split into groups of Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Argos. From there, they enjoyed a variety of activities including crown and medal making, Greek alphabet writing, and they also had a fantastic time in the Immersive Suite exploring Ancient Greece. Some students were selected to do cooking and made Falafels, Greek Salad and Tzatziki.

To end the day, children designed their own Olympic games mascots and took part in Olympic events including long jump, javelin and discus.



Sports

Sports Days

Both KS1 and KS2 recently had their annual sports days. The weather was shining beautifully for both successful events.

All children showed determination, courage, excellence, pride and success for each event. Our wonderful Playground Leaders helped with equipment for races, giving out stickers, organising groups and supporting the younger children.

Thank you to everyone that attended these events!



Year 6 Cricket Tournament

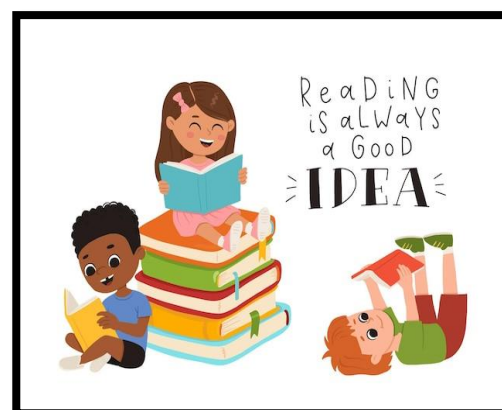
On Friday 21st June, children attended a cricket tournament at Boston cricket club. 16 teams attended with some experienced cricket on display. Every representative of our school put in 100% effort and should be proud. The results may not have gone our way; however, we displayed some fantastic bowling, catching and strong batting. Well done to all children involved.



Reading

For the half term holiday children across the school were invited to take part in a Reading Challenge. Miss Gilhespy and Mrs Tubb loved seeing all the different entries including videos of children reading, mini storybooks, reviews and many more. The winning entries will soon be receiving their rewards!

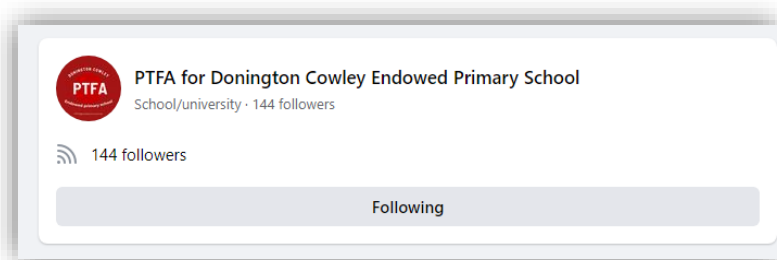
You may have noticed in our entrance area we now have recommended books from our staff members and Mrs Foston has her own special 'headteacher trolley.' We would love to see what children think of the books we have recommended



PTFA

A huge thank you to everyone that supported the Summer Fair. We have once again raised a huge amount of money **£1297.49!** Some of this will go towards new equipment for the recently refurbished kitchen which all the children get so excited to use.

We have lots of exciting things planned for the next academic year so keep an eye on the Facebook page and website for more information. If you are not yet following the Facebook page, please start, as there is lots of information on there about what the PTFA are planning!



Easy Fundraising.

This is a really easy way to support the school in raising funds. All you have to do is scan the QR code below and sign up. Then when you shop online with a number of retailers, they donate a percentage to the school.



Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Our Year 6 leavers assembly will be held on the last day of term, Friday 19th July at 9.15am. It usually lasts for approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour and parents and carers of Year 6 students are invited into school to join us for this.

Tissues will be required!



Production

It is that time of year again! We are all busy rehearsing for our fantastic whole school production of All for 1, 2, 3, 4!...an 80's twist on The 3 Musketeers! All children throughout the school will be involved in this and principal characters have been cast from our talented Year 6 students.

Show times are as follows:

Wednesday 17th July at 1.45pm

Wednesday 17th July at 6pm

Thursday 18th July at 1.45pm

Thursday 18th July at 6pm

For the evening performances, children will need to be at school for 5.30pm so they are ready to be on stage for 6pm.

Tickets to come and watch the shows are available to book through ParentMail. There are only 100 tickets available per show and only 2 tickets can be booked per family. Any problems booking your tickets, please contact the school office.

We are not charging for tickets, however, in order to be able to put on productions each year we will have a collection at the end of each show and would be grateful of your support.

Tickets for the show are available from 1st July, so get ready to sing along to another fantastic performance put together by the wonderful Act II and performed by our very talented pupils (and staff!) here at Donington Cowley Endowed Primary School.





JULY

2 nd	New Reception 2024 – Stay and Play 2pm – 3pm
4 th	KS1 Trip – Yorkshire Wildlife Park
4 th	Y3/4 Indian Experience
5 th	KS2 Ultimate Frisbee development day
8 th	Y5/6 Trip - Cadbury World
11 th	Y3/4 Capture the Castle
12 th	Reports Out
12 th	Disco
12 th	Matthew Flinders event
17 th	Whole School Production
18 th	Whole School Production
19 th	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
19 th	Break up for academic year 2023/2024
	<u>Summer Holidays</u>