



Welcome back! I hope everyone has had a fantastic half term and have had the opportunity to make the most of the improved weather- it is lovely to start to see the first signs of spring emerging. This half term, whilst short, is looking very busy with lots of exciting things happening in school.

Reading

We have recently undertaken a review of our whole school approach to reading and have signed up to the Lincolnshire Reading Pledge. Our aim is to ensure all children have opportunity to develop a love of reading along with the knowledge and skills needed to read fluently and thereby confidently access the full curriculum.

Working with the English Hub we have developed a reading spine which sets our recommended reads for each year group - these can be accessed on our website [The Donington Cowley Endowed Primary - Reading](#) . Our curriculum is aligned with key texts for whole class shared reading and additional opportunities to encourage children who are accessing Read Write Inc Phonics to read texts for pleasure in addition to their decodable 'book bag books'. For those no longer following the scheme, a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts have been appropriately banded for children to enjoy in school and at home. We encourage you to read with your child at all opportunities - You are never too old for a bedtime story!!



In school we have enjoyed different reading events to further enhance children's reading experiences, these have included paired reading - between different age groups and shared story telling with adults across the school. Children have greatly enjoyed these opportunities and are looking forward to forthcoming activities and events including World Book Day (Thursday 2nd March) and Shakespeare Week (Week beginning 27th March).

Attendance and Punctuality

We politely remind you that all children should be in school by 8.55am. If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, we must receive notification by this time each day of absence. Notification can be made by Parent Mail, email or telephone. Failure to do so may lead to a home visit or referral to external services as per our attendance and safeguarding policy and procedures. It is vitally important to your child's education that they attend school on time every day.



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Staffing update

Sarah-Jane Millard, will now be leading on attendance and will continue to provide SEND and Family support within the role of Inclusion Lead. If you have any concerns or queries in relation to any of these matters, please do contact her for advice and support.

SATs, Multiplication Check and Phonics Screening

Key Stage 2 SATS will be held **Tuesday 9th May- Friday 12th May** - all year 6 children must attend school on these dates as usual. Further information will be provided nearer the time.

Key Stage 1 SATs will be held week commencing **15th May**.

Year 4 pupils will sit the multiplication check **5th – 16th June**

Year 1 pupils will sit the phonics screening week commencing **12th June**

PTFA

Great News!!!

The Donington Cowley PTFA have now been granted charity status. This will give us more opportunities to raise money to support the school.

Our next PTFA meeting is on Tuesday 28th February at 3.30pm and you are welcome to come along and join us. We are starting to plan our events for the year including our first Summer Fair.

Comic relief - School Council update

Our School Council invite children to come to school wearing their most colourful and crazy outfits!

Think **rainbows**, **bright colours** and **crazy hair** to express yourself!

We would appreciate any donations made towards Comic relief.





March

Wednesday 1st – Y5/6 Trip – Imperial War Museum

Thursday 2nd- World Book Day - Dress up as your favourite character

Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd- Roots to Food

Wednesday 8th- Parent's Meetings

Thursday 9th- Cross Country competition

Friday 17th- Comic Relief- Red Nose Day

Tuesday 21st- National Poetry Day

Thursday 23rd - Y5/6 Netball competition

Thursday 23rd – Y3/4 Flag Fen

Friday 31st- Autism Awareness Day and End of Spring Term

Friday 31st – Basketball Development Day