

Our Newsletter this week and the sad passing of the Queen

As we reflect and pray on the sad news of the passing of Her Majesty The Queen, we want to reflect and thank all those who serve us. We feel this quote sums up nicely the impact the Queen has had on our nation:

"When I was 21, I pledged my life to the service of our people and I asked for God's help to make good that vow. Although that vow was made in my salad days, when I was green in judgement, I do not regret, or retract, one word of it."

I want to include the Prayer from the Church Of England:

*Gracious God, we give thanks
for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth,
for her faith and her dedication to duty.
Bless our nation as we mourn her death
and may her example continue to inspire us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen.

We will share more information soon, rest assured we will support pupils today and always.

Information from DFE

We have now entered a period of national mourning that will continue until the end of the State Funeral. Guidance providing the public, businesses and institutions with advice on the period of national mourning following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will be issued by the Cabinet Office and available on GOV.UK.

Once details of the funeral are confirmed by the Royal Household, we will write to you with further guidance and information.

Schools and Further Education settings should remain open.

If children and young people are upset, [Minded](#) is a source of information to support children and young people to manage death and loss.

The BBC has lots of news and events. [Home - BBC News](#)

Our newsletter

Autumn term Week 1

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a fantastic first week of our new school year! We are delighted to receive back our returning pupils and families, and to warmly welcome our new Year 3s and new pupils to the area who have joined our school. Thank you so much for the trust you put in us in educating your child.

We are very excited about the year ahead. Please see some of the key dates below. These will be added to as the term goes on.

[Full prospectus](#): for full information about the school please see our prospectus.

School start -A reminder that school gates now open at **8:30am** and lessons start at **8:35**. We encourage all pupils to be at school on time and we will give awards to pupils who have the least late marks over the year. School finishes at the usual time of 2.45pm.

Our Vision and Values

Our school is a community where each person is valued as a child of God. We are a Church of England School, inspired and guided by the life and teaching of Jesus. We work together to create a caring, friendly, and safe school family, to enable the whole school community to flourish and each person reach their full God-given potential.

The school logo links to **our Motto**. "The ones who plant and the ones who water work together as a team with the same purpose." 1 Corinthians 3:8

We believe that with God's help when we all work as a TEAM - Together Everyone Achieves More.

Our Mission (INTENT) At Donnington Wood CE Junior School we will:

- put the safety of everyone as a priority so we can work in trust and peace.
- encourage everyone to understand the true meaning of friendship, fellowship, and community by acting with humility, compassion and in service to each other.
- be inclusive so everyone is valued and respected and where tolerance and diversity are celebrated.
- seek out every opportunity to ensure that all of us flourish in all that we do, developing wisdom and creativity, through an ambitious and broad curriculum that challenges expectations, deepens knowledge and develops skills.
- empower pupils and adults to develop hope and perseverance, so that they are able to engage/explore the challenges of school and the wider world.
- nurture the spiritual development of our school fellowship, develop tolerance of other faiths, beliefs, and cultures, and build religious literacy through collective worship of God and teaching of RE.
- champion our values to equip our children ready for their future as respectful individuals, life-long learners and active citizens in society (justice).

Safety: Walking home and collection

The safety of your child is paramount to us. Currently we do not have a limit on the age a child can walk home/to the gate on their own- it is down to parent and carers discretion. However, we are concerned that some parents are requesting that younger children walk out of school to go home or to cars parked away from the site. As mentioned before, once your child leaves the school gate, they are your responsibility, and you must be assured they can do it safely. Unfortunately, we often find

that parents are not there to meet a child, or are running late, and the child is left waiting alone, or not sure what to do or where to go. We will be launching a consultation in the next few weeks to discuss options including mandatory collection for Years 3 and 4. Collection is also an important opportunity to discuss issues with the class teacher.

Online safety is incredibly important to us too. Please ensure that pupils only have access to age-appropriate social media sites for instance: WhatsApp is for 16 years old and Tik Tok is 13. To guide parents, I will share more information in the coming weeks. Please discourage your child from joining open chat groups on mobile devices and consoles and monitor any contacts made this way.

School site safety: Please note that there are some loose paving slabs around the school so please be careful when walking to classrooms.

Child Protection Policy: [Please click here to see our child protection policy.](#)

Our behaviour policy will be published next week.

Curriculum

Our school's Core Values are building **friendship**, encouraging **perseverance**, and inspiring **hope**. This Autumn Term we are focussing on friendship and relationships, and we ask, 'How we can live together?'

Our curriculum this term will be driven by this key question and our subjects will be linked to this theme. Please ask your child how their learning is helping them understand the value of friendship and challenge them to discuss the best ways to live respectfully together in our community. We will share all the curriculum maps and plans soon, but we also [recommend visiting our website](#).

Our full website has all the information you need to know about the school. [Donnington Wood Church of England Junior School – Together Everyone Achieves More](#)

SeeSaw and online learning

Pupils are starting to post their learning on SeeSaw. SeeSaw is a unique and ground-breaking way to be part of your child's learning. You are able to see, comment and like your child's work from anywhere. We are sending out letters this week with log in details. Parents that connected last year, should be able to see their child's work already. SeeSaw prepares your child for future life using technology to learn and means you are informed about how to support their learning in school and at home.

One of the best features is how your child can carry on their work at home. 80% of pupils in school have gone home and looked at work again, completed some extra work, or pushed themselves further. This shows great attitude and enables them to flourish. If your child is absent from school for any reason, they can remain connected to the class curriculum.

We also have many free apps to use at home, like Accelerated Reader and Timetables Rockstar.

Parent Pay

This is our main way of communicating with you, paying for trips and dinners and other information. We are in the process of sorting login details for all families

Cost of Living Crisis

This is a very worrying economic time for people in our community. We will be sharing lots of resources and help with our families, but if you need advice or support, please let us know. We have lots of second-hand school uniform to purchase from school if this is an issue for you.

Homework

We complete all homework online. Very shortly pupils will be able to bring their school tablet home to help complete tasks. This equipment will need to be looked after carefully and brought back to school each day to use in class.

Cricket

We have partnered with Shropshire Cricket to offer sessions to all pupils. These will begin this term and we will let you know more details soon.

Community event at St Matthew's Church – Saturday 10th September 'Ride and Stride'. There will be refreshments, hot dogs, cakes, raffle, crafts/activities for children and a static bike for adults wanting to have a go to raise money for Shropshire Historic Churches and St Matthew's Church.

Autumn term dates (there will be lots more information and dates added, but I want to share the dates now)

Friday 16th September Year 5 Greek Day- more information to come

Friday 23rd September 1 x Year 5 class Arthog visit (will confirm which class)

Monday 26th September 1 x Year 5 Arthog Visit

Tuesday 27th September Year 3 Wrekin Forest School (details next week)

Wednesday 28th September Year 4 Wrekin Forest School

Thursday 29th September Year 6 Group 1 Love2Stay

Friday 30th September Year 6 Group 2 Love2Stay

Thursday 20th October @1:45: Harvest Festival, led by Year 3 but all classes singing

Friday 21st October: School closed PD Day.

Monday 24th -Friday 28th October -HALF TERM WEEK

Thursday 10th November: Parents Evening 3pm to 6 pm

Friday 11th November pm. School closes at 1pm for Parents Evening 1:30pm to 4 pm.

Friday 18th November: Children in Need Mufti (Non School Uniform)

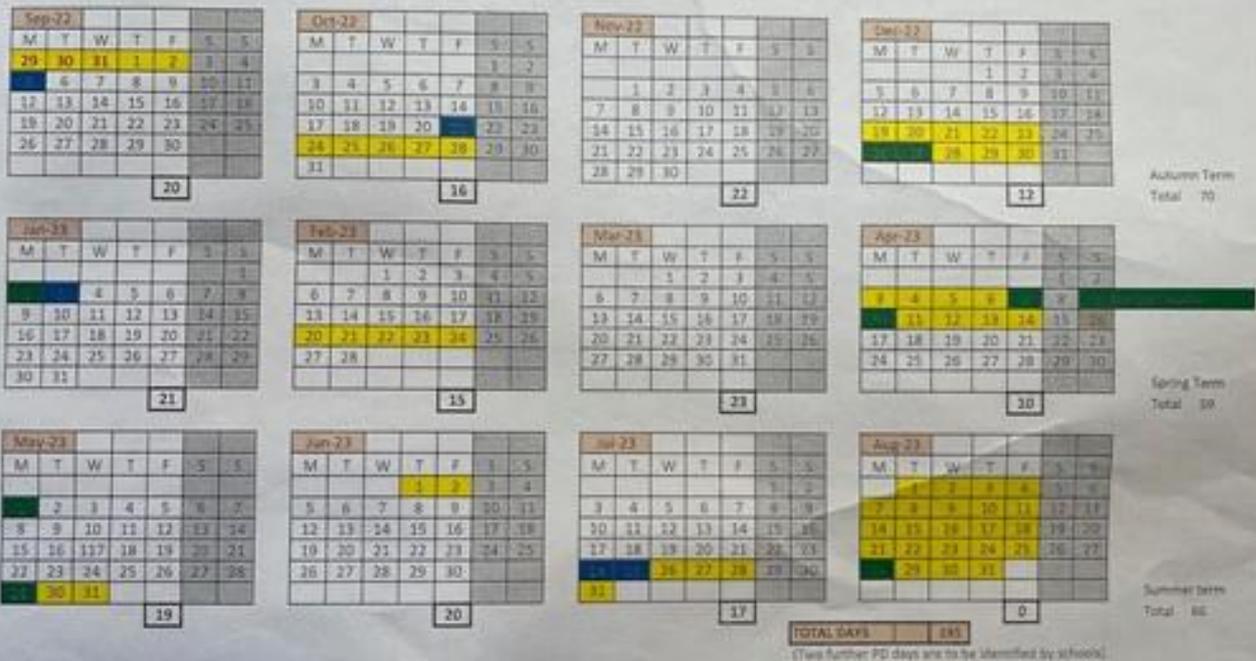
Wednesday 7th December 3:30 Evening Christmas Production, Children to stay at school.

Thursday 8th December 1:30 Afternoon Christmas Performance

Friday 16th December: Last day of Term

Wednesday 4th January 2023: Return to school for SPRING TERM

PROPOSED HOLIDAY MODEL - September 2022 to August 2023



Staff Total: 195 days
 Pupil Total: 190 days (pupils are required to attend for 190 days)
 (Term dates are set on the basis of 195 days and inset days should be allocated from within the agreed dates.
 There are three inset days suggested by the LA. Schools should identify two further inset days).

School Holidays =
 Bank Holidays =
 PD Days =

[Holiday dates 2022- 23 – Donnington Wood Church of England Junior School](#)