

Horizon Schools Federation

Newsletter

April 2026



Welcome back!

I hope you have all had a lovely Easter break and have enjoyed the spring sunshine!

As we have only just returned to school, we have a few updates and reminders which we would like to share as we look forward to a very busy summer term ahead!!

Thank you
for your
continued
support!
- Mrs Foston



Parent Governor

We would like to extend our warmest welcome to Leanne Mansell, who is joining our governing body in the role of Parent Governor and offer our thanks for her commitment to our federation.

Equally we would like to thank all parents who expressed interest in the role and share our appreciation for their support.



Office News

With the Summer Term looking to be very busy as always, we kindly ask that you keep an eye on your emails to ensure you don't miss any important information. Don't forget our websites hold lots of useful information including PE and Forest School days.

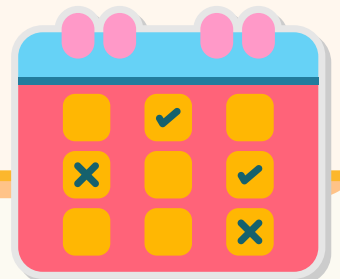
If you have any questions regarding your Arbor Parent Portal, please contact your school office.



Attendance

What to do if your child is unable to attend school.

Frequent absence will inevitably impact on your child's learning, both academically and socially. If your child is unable to attend school, you must contact the school office before 9am. You can leave an email or voice message to inform us of the absence. If we do not hear from you, we will contact you. If we cannot contact you, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. If we have not heard from you, please expect to receive a home visit from a member of staff. Repeated unauthorised absences can lead to penalty notices.



Year 6 SATs Week 2026

Year 6 SATs will be taking place week commencing Monday 11th May 2026. These are external statutory tests to assess pupil progress and attainment in English and Maths in readiness for transition to secondary education. The timetable for the week will be as follows:

Date	Activity
Monday 11 May 2026	English grammar, punctuation and spelling Papers 1 and 2
Tuesday 12 May 2026	English reading
Wednesday 13 May 2026	Mathematics Papers 1 and 2
Thursday 14 May 2026	Mathematics Paper 3



Attendance and punctuality are extremely important- we want to be able to start the tests as soon as possible once the children arrive. All children must attend each day.

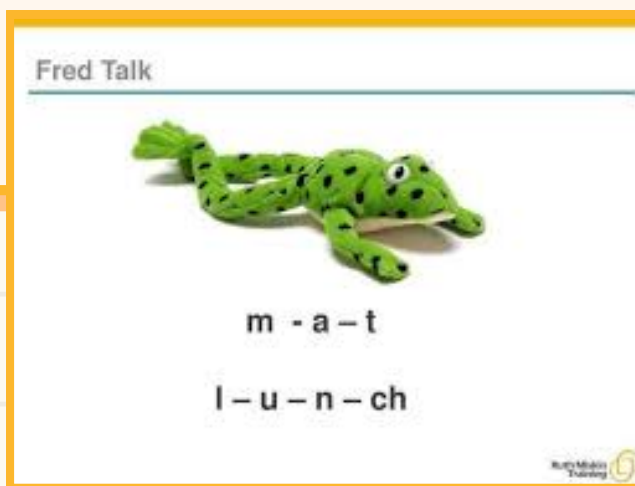
To support your child and ensure they have a good start to the day, we ask that all year 6 children arrive between 8:30 and 8:45 am ready to enjoy breakfast to prepare them for the day ahead!



Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check will be administered during the week beginning the 8th of June. Children will be reading 40 words, 20 real words and 20 'alien' words. To prepare for this, please read with your children as much as possible and encourage them to use their Read Write Inc techniques 'Special Friends, Fred Talk, Read the Word.'

Class teachers will be able to tell you if there are any sounds your child needs support with.



Year 4 Multiplication Check

In June 2026, all Year 4 children in England will take part in the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). The aim is to see how confidently pupils can recall their times tables up to 12×12 . Schools will complete the check during the two-week window starting Monday 1st June 2026. It is a short digital check lasting around 5 minutes where there are 25 multiplication questions, each with a 6-second time limit.

The children are able to have 3 practice questions first. There is no pass mark, and children do not retake the check. Teachers use the results to identify pupils who may benefit from extra support.

The best way to support your child at home is through regular, short practice. 5–10 minutes a day can really help! If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.





This term, music will be in the air as productions at both Donington and St Gilberts are fast approaching.

Rory from Pop Rox is back in school and if you would like your child to enrol for lessons please visit the website where you can sign up for lessons.



[Pop Rox Music School](#)

SIGN UP



The choirs at both Donington and St Gilberts are back to practicing for their summer performances later in the year.

Dates for Summer Term performances will be sent out as soon as they are confirmed.



Donington Sports Day

Sports day is on Monday 18th May. Please see below the confirmed times for the day. We apologise for the changes made to the structure of the day compared to the February newsletter; these adjustments were necessary due to other commitments in school for Key Stage 1.

We will open the gates shortly before the start times to ensure everyone is seated and ready for the races to begin.

Year Group	Start time
3 & 4	9.15am
5 & 6	10.40am
Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & 2	13.30pm

During the afternoon session, Nursery will take part in their events first followed by Reception then Years 1 & 2.



Easter Celebrations

Our Reception and KS1 children enjoyed a wonderful Easter craft event, where parents were invited to join in the fun. Together, families created a range of colourful Easter crafts, from handmade cards to cheerful spring crafts. The hall and Hedgehogs classroom were filled with creativity, laughter, and a real sense of community as children proudly shared their ideas and skills. Thank you to all the parents who attended and helped make the event so special!



PTFA

Our PTFA team is hard at work getting everything ready for the Summer Fair! Be sure to save the date and come along to support us—it's shaping up to be a fantastic event for everyone to enjoy.

There will be a PTFA Non-uniform Bring a Bottle day on Friday 22nd May. Children are invited into school in non-uniform and asked to bring a bottle donation to go towards the Bottle Stall at the Summer Fair!



DONINGTON COWLEY ENDOWED
PRIMARY PTFA PRESENT THE

SUMMER FAIR

6TH JUNE 2025 12-3PM

We'd love to see you there!

Tombola
& Bottle
Stalls

Food
Vendors

PTFA
Raffle

Local Stall
Holders

Class
Games



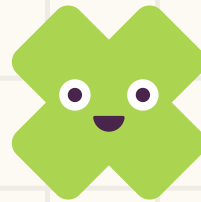
Important Dates - Donington

MAY

- 4th - Bank Holiday Monday
- 11th - 14th - KS2 SATs Week
- 18th - Sports Day. KS2 am and EYFS/KS1 pm
- 22nd - PTFA Non uniform and 'Bring a Bottle' day
- 22nd - End of Summer Term 1



JUNE



- 1st - Start of Summer Term 2
- 1st - 5th Top up swimming week
- 4th EYFS/Year 1 Sundown Adventureland visit
- 1st - 12th Year 4 Multiplication Checks
- 11th - Year 3 and 4 Topic afternoon with parents
- 8th - 12th Y1 Phonics Screening Checks
- 6th - Summer Fair
- 19th - Y6 Cricket Day
- 23rd - Y4 PGL Parent information meeting 3.30pm
- 25th - Roots to Food Y6 Gala Dinner
- 26th - Tri Golf festival



JULY



- 7th Capture the Castle
- 9th Orienteering
- 10th School reports out
- 10th Summer Disco
- 15th and 16th - Whole School Production
- 22nd End of Academic year

