



Ecclesbourne Primary School

Newsletter Friday 19th July 2013



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of the year. It has gone so quickly and yet, when I look back on all that has been achieved, I can see where the time has gone. We still have ambitions for where the school needs to improve but it is important to take the time to reflect and celebrate some of our successes this year.

Firstly, this year, the school is celebrating its best ever SATs results at Key Stage Two. More children than ever achieved the expected level 4 in reading, writing and maths with a good percentage achieving level 5. This year, for the first time ever we even had children sitting and passing the level 6 maths test. Our Key Stage One results were an improvement on last year and 84% of children passed the Year One phonics screening test. It is testament to all the hard work that staff have put in that these results have been so good and I would like to record my thanks to them all.

As well as academic success, we have a wealth of other things to be proud of: Sports' days, Christmas productions, Year 6 productions, open days, fun days, school journeys, maths week, science week and a host of trips to museums, zoos, plays, and other attractions have all been safely and successfully organised to enrich the children's experience of school.

Today, we also celebrated attendance in assembly and I was able to commend over 30 children who have 100% attendance for the year and a 150 who have not missed a day this term.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year at Ecclesbourne, meeting all the children and so many parents. I would like to thank everyone for their support and I look forward to building on our successes next year. All that remains is for me to wish you a happy and restful break. I look forward to seeing you back in September.

Returning to school I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate our school uniform policy for any parents who may be buying new items over the break. Trainers are not allowed. Black trainers with a sporting brand label are not a substitute for black school shoes. Also, we expect hair to be kept sensibly neat and tidy. Mohican hairstyles, colours, extravagant or brightly coloured hair accessories and shaved markings in hair or eyebrows are not acceptable.

Mobile phones As of September, no mobile phones will be allowed in school. Although this has always been the case, we have, in the past, tried to make arrangements to accommodate special circumstances. The collection and storage of mobile phones has now become too onerous for this to be feasible. Police advice is that younger children with mobile phones are more vulnerable because they may be targeted by older children. If a child does not arrive at school, the school will contact parents. The school cannot accept responsibility for any phones in school. On the subject of mobile phones, I have noticed a minority of parents who greet or drop off their child whilst on the phone. While I understand that people do need to take calls, and I am not minded to ban mobile phones from the playground as some schools have done, please be mindful of the impression this gives your child if, at the end of the day, you cannot interrupt your call to greet your child and ask them how their day was. Surely, a smile and a conversation with your child is more important than catching up with gossip on the phone.

Leavers As ever at this time of year, we have to wish some people goodbye and good luck. Mr Bird, Miss Cetinich, Mrs Payne- Roberts and Mr Harris are all moving on to new pastures. Miss Williams is leaving us to have a baby. We are sorry to see them go and wish them all the best and thank them for all their hard work during their time here.

Other events in the coming weeks

Tuesday 23rd July: Last day of term

Thursday 5th September: New term begins

Paul Robins–
Head of School
Ecclesbourne Primary School