



Ecclesbourne Primary School

Newsletter Thursday 20th July 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

Once again, we find ourselves at the end of the school year. It has been a busy year and it is important to take a moment to reflect on some of the successes of the school.

It has been another good year for the school and it should be celebrated. We have, again, produced results in Reception that surpass national levels. At the Year One Phonics Screening Check, 88% of children passed which again is better than national results. At Key Stage One, although national figures are not available we know that our scores in school have risen and our children are ready for Year 3. Finally, at Key Stage Two, we can happily report that our school had 64% of children passing in all subjects (reading, writing and maths) combined. This compares with a national figure of 61%. Although we recognise that there is always more to do, for now it is important to take stock and celebrate the fantastic improvements that have been made. I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work and generosity of spirit in what has been a challenging year.

Beyond the academic side of school life, we are proud that the school is still able to offer a rich and rewarding, broad and balanced curriculum. Music in the school goes from strength to strength with children showcasing their talents in all manner of productions and concerts. With the addition of the Jam Bus, it looks set to develop even further. Sport still plays a big part in our school life and we are again the proud holders of the Boys' Relay trophy. There have been numerous trips out and visitors to the school, all supporting the children's learning and giving them experiences that will stay with them forever.

I have thoroughly enjoyed another year at Ecclesbourne and I would like to say thank you for the support that so many parents have offered. I would also like to thank all the children for the enthusiasm and happiness they bring into school every day. It makes it all worth while. I look forward to building on our successes again next year. All that remains is for me to wish you a happy and restful break. I look forward to seeing you back, well rested and raring to go, 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. I look forward to seeing all the children looking smart and ready for the new year in September.

Can I also please take a moment to remind those parents who choose to drive their children to school that by far the best option is to park away from the school and walk the remaining distance. Attlee Close is unsuitable for the level of traffic at drop off and collection times and there is insufficient parking. If you feel that you must enter Attlee Close, please respect our neighbours by parking legally and not blocking drives or using residents' spaces. Also, be prepared to get stuck in traffic and remain patient and courteous when it happens. This will not only lead to a happier community, it will mean that children will be able to cross roads easily and get to school safely.

Leavers As ever at this time of year, we have to wish some people goodbye and good luck. As many of you know, Mr O'Doherty has just become a father- congratulations to him!. He will be leaving us to return to Ireland to be with his wider family and we wish him all the best with his baby daughter. Also leaving us are Mr Strutt and Mr Johnson who are pursuing their teaching careers elsewhere. Mr Maurice is also moving to another school in the Trust. We wish them all the best and thank them for their hard work during their time here. Mrs Cove, who has been a stalwart of Ecclesbourne for over 25 years is also leaving for a well earned rest. We wish her a happy retirement. Finally, we are also saying goodbye to Mrs Hammond who is relocating to an exciting new life in Newcastle. She has been a pillar of strength in her role as Deputy Head and Inclusion Manager. She has been instrumental in so many of the successes at Ecclesbourne and a great support to me on this school's journey. She will be sorely missed but we wish her all the best for the future.


Paul Robins
Head of School
Ecclesbourne Primary School

Diary dates

**Wednesday 6th September: New term begins
8:45am**