



# Ecclesbourne Primary School

## Newsletter Friday 21st November 2014



### **Dear Parents and Carers,**

The term is rushing by and the children are hard at work. This week we have been enriching our curriculum by holding a maths week and a friendship week. The children have been focusing on a range of different maths activities where they can use and apply their skills. We've even had some Year 6 children calculating how many blades of grass there are on the field. (About 2,529,579 for those who are interested). I hope you have all been working hard on your family quizzes and puzzling over some maths yourselves. Alongside the maths, we have been celebrating some of the things that make up being a good friend. It has been lovely to see the children nominating their peers for the everyday kindnesses that sometimes go unnoticed.

**Punctuality and Attendance** As well as monitoring our attendance figures, I have been keeping an eye on those children who turn up late. The vast majority of children are very punctual so thank you to those parents who ensure their children are out of the house in plenty of time every day. Also, I'm pleased to say that some people have been making a real effort to improve their punctuality. Special thanks to those who have made the extra effort as it is really paying off. It just goes to show what is possible by getting organised the night before then getting up and leaving the house 5 minutes earlier.

**A few polite reminders** Firstly, can I remind you that we are a 'nut free school' and, to protect our children who have nut allergies, no nut products should be sent in lunch boxes. Secondly, I have noticed that there are a few children who are coming to school without a coat. Although it may be warm and dry in the car on the way to school, at playtime, unless it is really wet, we aim to get the children outside for some fresh air so it is important that they bring a coat to school. Please ensure that any coats, along with other items coming into school, are clearly named. Finally, if you find that your child has come home with the wrong jumper or kit, send it back in and we will make sure it gets to its rightful owner.

**Following the website** If your child attends a Pegasus school, the best way to stay up to date with everything going on is via the website. News stories and diary dates are regularly added so it makes good sense to check back often. The website has around 300 hits a day, which is great, but with over 1200 children in Pegasus schools there must be a lot of parents who are missing out on hearing what their children have been up to. If you are on Twitter, you can follow The Pegasus Academy Trust and you will be tweet-ed every time a new story is posted. We currently have just over 100 followers but it would be great to see that number increase.

**Sharing a birthday book** Although we are a healthy school, I accept that parents sometimes like to send in a 'sweet treat' to mark their child's birthday. Treats are always sent home so that individual parents can decide if they want their child to eat them. Class teachers also discourage large party bags and whole cakes which must be cut and wrapped by the parent. An idea currently circulating at other schools in the Trust is a 'Birthday Book'. If you want to mark your child's birthday in school, in a special way, send in a children's book for the class book corner instead of a sweet or cake. The whole class can sign it and then your child's birthday is remembered throughout the year when children borrow the book.

### **Diary dates**

**Monday 15th December** KS1 Christmas performance 2pm (Details to follow)

**Tuesday 16th December** KS1 Christmas performance 10am

**Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th December** KS2 Christmas Production 7pm

**Friday 19th December** Last day of term

**Tuesday 6th January** First day of spring term

Paul Robins  
**Head of School**  
**Ecclesbourne Primary School**