



Ecclesbourne Primary School

Newsletter 29th April 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

It seems that the news is always full of negative stories about primary schools with academies and testing high on the agenda. With this in mind, it is important to remember what is really important in primary school. At Ecclesbourne, we pride ourselves on providing rich learning opportunities for the children and this term has been no exception. In the past two weeks, the Nursery children have all visited Ladyland Farm, the Reception children have been busy making fires, toasting marshmallows and Zoolab visited to show us their creepy crawlies. Year 4 tested themselves on an adventurous visit to Walton Firs and Year 5 visited The Tower of London to learn about torture and imprisonment. Even while they are busy preparing for their SATs, Year 6 have managed to find the time to plant seeds that have been to the moon! As well as supporting the children to do well in government tests, we will continue to provide exciting trips and visits for your children because we believe that primary school is a place where memories should be made. I'm sure you'll agree. Keep an eye on the website at www.pegasusacademytrust.org for details of these and other exciting stories.

Parent Questionnaire Once again, we are running our Parental Survey to find out the views of parents and carers. This is a vital piece of work that lets us know how we are doing and what we can do to get better. Please help us to measure our efforts by taking five minutes to complete the questionnaire. Last year, we managed to get 107 responses but I'm sure we can get even more this year. It is available online through the school website.

Shoes and Trainers A polite reminder of the school's policy on uniform and footwear. The school's prospectus clearly states that: **"All children are required to wear school uniform including black shoes. No boots, sandals or trainers are allowed. Black trainers with a sporting brand label are not a substitute for black school shoes."** Unfortunately, some children are wearing footwear that is not acceptable as school uniform. Please ensure you provide your child with appropriate footwear to come to school. If you are unable to provide your child with suitable footwear, please speak to Mr Robins. Alternatively, the school will provide your child with footwear that is suitable for wear in school. If your child has a medical condition that precludes them from wearing the correct footwear, please speak to Mr Robins and we shall consider a medical exemption. At the time of the last parental survey, (2015) over 90% of parents strongly agreed with their child wearing school uniform. In light of this, I'm sure you will agree it is important to reinforce our school's uniform policy and make sure that everyone maintains the high standards we have set ourselves.

Parent MAC vacancy: We are looking for a new member of our academy council (MACs). We need committed people who are prepared to use their interest to challenge the school leadership and help drive things forward. If you are interested in helping to shape the future of Ecclesbourne Primary School and your child's education, please speak to a member of staff.

Other events in the coming weeks

Monday 2nd May – School closed May Day Bank Holiday
Thursday 5th May - School closed for polling station
Week Beginning Monday 9th May Year 6 SATs week
Friday 27th May - End of half term
Monday 6th June– Back to school
Thursday 23rd June School closed for polling station
Friday 24th June INSET day—school closed

Paul Robins—
Head of School
Ecclesbourne Primary School

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Robins'.