



Ecclesbourne Primary School

Newsletter 30th April 2015



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a hectic start to the summer term with lots of exciting things happening. We've had visits from cavemen, who came to see Year 3, and the school has been full of creepy crawlies and nocturnal creatures. 'Zoolab' visited the Reception children and 'Animal Magic' visited Year 2. The children had the opportunity to handle snails, cockroaches, rabbits, mice and even a snake, as well as learning about how these animals live. Not to be outdone, Year 4 have been out to Walton Firs Activity Centre where they got to test themselves on climbing walls and other challenges. All these activities form an important part of the school's curriculum by providing a range of experiences as well as inspiring the children in their reading, writing and maths. Keep an eye on the website for news and photos of events happening in school.

Charity giving: Thank you to everyone who took part in the Easter Egg Raffle. It managed to raise over £270. This is vital money that goes into the school fund and helps to support the activities that the children enjoy in school.

The General Election: A final reminder that **the school is closed next Thursday, the 7th of May**, as the school is a polling station. The children will be having their own elections the following day as we look to set up a school council. This will offer the pupils an important forum for sharing ideas and having their say in decisions that affect them in school.

Halal meat: Hopefully, everyone saw last week's letter consulting parents about introducing Halal meat in school. Please return the questionnaire even if you don't have a strong opinion on the subject. This will help us to ensure that everyone's voice is heard and we can make an informed decision about whether or not we move forward on this proposal. Much like the General Election, if you don't use your vote, you can't complain afterwards. On the subject of school dinners, if you use this service, please ensure your account is kept up to date rather than running into debt. Thank you.

Punctuality and Attendance: The current attendance for the school year is 95.9% and although this is above the national average, I would be much happier if we were nearer to 98%. Whilst we don't want sick children in school, please make the effort to get your child into school if they are just feeling a bit off colour. If your child gets worse during the day, we will always call you and you can come and collect them. Last week's attendance winners were **Asteroids** with **99.67%**. Well done to them.

Parent MAC vacancy: We are still 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. There is not an onerous time commitment and you get the opportunity to support the school in improving further. If you are interested in helping to shape the future of Ecclesbourne Primary School and your child's education, please speak to Mr Robins.

Other events in the coming weeks:

Thursday 7th May - General election school closed for polling station

Week beginning Monday 11th May Year 6 SATs week

Week beginning Monday 18th May Year 6 Journey to the Isle of Wight

Friday 22nd May- Last day of half term

Monday 1st June Back to school

Week beginning Monday 15th June Year 1 Phonics screening check

Friday 19th June Inset day - school closed

Paul Robins—
Head of School
Ecclesbourne Primary School