



# Ecclesbourne Primary School

## Newsletter Wednesday 16th December 2020



### Dear Parents and Carers,

We have finally made it to the end of a long term in what has been an extraordinary year. I know that this year has been an incredibly tough one for many people. There has been increased anxiety for many and, for some, sadness and loss. Like many of you, I will be glad to see the back of 2020 and I am looking forward to 2021 with the hope of brighter times to come. However, as we reflect on the challenges of this year it is worth trying to think of the positives that have come out of adversity. I have been so impressed by the resilience of the children as they have returned to school. They have had to adapt to lots of different systems and routines and yet they have coped admirably. We have asked the children to get to grips with lots of different ways of working and we have all learnt so much about things like Google Meets and Blogs. These are valuable skills for now and the future and it has been inspiring to see how quickly the children have embraced working with technology. It just shows how quickly we can learn new things when we are pushed out of necessity. If you are still unsure about how to use the blogs or to get on to Google Meets, please practice and discuss this with your child over the break because I suspect that we may unfortunately see more children working from home in the coming months.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the staff who have worked incredibly hard this year to continue to provide an education and maintain a sense of normality for the children. Whatever has been asked of them, they have risen to the challenge.

I would also like to thank all the parents who have been supportive and incredibly understanding through all the challenges of the past year. I know that it was not easy having to educate your children at home during the early summer and I understand that many of you will have been reluctant to send your children back to school this term. However, we have had excellent attendance considering the circumstances and everyone has been turning up to school in good humour with a real sense of positivity and community. Finally, I would just like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a restful holiday. Please take the time to recharge your batteries and remember to stay safe so that we can see you all back safely in the new year.

**Nursery** We are sorry to be saying good bye to Miss Hay who has been covering the Nursery post this term. She has done a remarkable job of settling the children in to school so well and we are sorry to see her go although we understand why the prospect of a full time position elsewhere has tempted her away. We wish her all the best in her new post but hope we will be able to tempt her back soon. While we await the return of Miss Meeto from maternity leave, Mrs Noone will return to working in the Nursery and Miss Hinds and Miss Nilka will provide the children with continuity and stability.

**Returning to School** The children are due back in school on Tuesday the 5th of January. Please do not return to school if you are showing any of the symptoms of Coronavirus or if you are self isolating as a result of a positive test, including if you have been identified as a close contact of someone testing positive.

If you develop symptoms before Friday the 18th December and subsequently test positive, please inform the school via [epsadmin@pegasusacademytrust.org](mailto:epsadmin@pegasusacademytrust.org) so that we can advise other contacts, if need be.

### Diary dates

**Monday 4th January** - Inset day (school closed)

**Tuesday 5th January 2021** - Return to school

**Remember to keep checking the website and familiarise yourself with how to access Google Meets and our online learning through the class blogs.**

Paul Robins  
Head of School  
Ecclesbourne Primary School