



# THE ECCLESBOURNE SCHOOL

PARENTS, STAFF & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity No: 1047233

Chair: Steph Austin

Secretary: Alison Askins

Wirksworth Road, Duffield, Belper, DE56 4GS

Tel: (01332) 840645 Fax: (01332) 841871

info@ecclesbournepsfa.co.uk

www.ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk/psfa



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Dear Year 7 Parent

We hope that your child(ren) has/have settled into and are enjoying The Ecclesbourne School.

We would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little about the Ecclesbourne School Parent School & Friends Association (PSFA); how it helps the School and all pupils; and how you can get involved.

Over the last 10 years, the Ecclesbourne PSFA has donated more than £100,000 to the School, funding much-valued 'extras', such as a laser cutter for the Technology Department; mental health workshops across all years; School atlases; whiteboards for the maths department; photography competition prizes; visiting authors; trips out; sports kits; and Prize Day Awards.

PSFA fundraising events take place throughout the school year and include support at Parents' Evenings (see below); provision of a bar at School productions; Nearly New Uniform sales; and our legendary Quiz & Chips evenings. We have also recently introduced a new fundraiser – our highly successful Comedy Night; and are looking at the possibility of other exciting events as we speak.

## **Where does the money we raise go?**

Funds that we raise are stored centrally and School Departments can put in "bids" for funding for their Department throughout the year. PSFA Committee members then vote on which bids are approved, and tend to support those bids that will benefit the greatest number of children. We have recently approved bids from the Geography Dept for textbooks and fieldwork equipment; the Art department for paint, light panels, easels and projectors; a bid for anti-bullying training for the whole School; a bid for football kit and footballs; and a bid from the Drama dept to fund workshops, new Shakespeare texts and Theatre trips.

## **Autumn Term Activities**

There are a number of events coming up this Term that you could help us with:



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## Parents' Evenings

Firstly, you will be experiencing your first Parents' Evening on 10 or 17 October.

At Parents' Evening, the PSFA runs a raffle, and you will find members of the PSFA welcoming as you enter the School, selling raffle tickets. They will be able to point you in the right direction to meet teachers, will have a map to help you find your appointments, can advise if any teachers are absent and will also be asking you to buy a £1 Raffle ticket – the proceeds of which go into PSFA funds and are used to fulfil bids from School Departments (obviously if you wish to buy more than one ticket, that would be great).

All tickets are entered into a draw and whomever holds the winning ticket (notified through School), receives a cheque for £50, with the rest of the money raised going into PSFA funds. And we are pleased to advise that you no longer need cash (although we still accept it) as we have a Sum Up machine to take card payments.

## EasyFundraising

On an ongoing basis, we ask all parents to sign up to EasyFundraising to support the School. This support quite literally, gives the School "free money"...it is really easy to do and won't cost you a penny.

It enables you to help raise funds for School from the comfort of your armchair - it's a shopping portal that offers a percentage fee from a huge number of retailers (and literally costs you nothing) so long as you visit the retailer via the EasyFundraising site. Some of you may already be supporting another cause via EasyFundraising. If this is the case, please do consider changing your allegiance (as you can only support one cause).

To date, we have 184 supporters and have received over £4,500 from EasyFundraising since we enrolled in 2018. However, with over 1500 students on Roll that is a very low number of parents supporting us, and we would love to see that number increase. Please consider enrolling and supporting The Ecclesbourne School for this great fundraiser.

Details of how to get involved with this can be found on the PSFA Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=ecclesbourne%20psfa>) or by contacting the PSFA at [events@ecclesbournepsfa.co.uk](mailto:events@ecclesbournepsfa.co.uk)

And you can even download a "Donation Reminder" bar for your PC, and a mobile app for your phone, so you need never miss a donation!



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## Quiz and Chips

You may have heard about the PSFA's legendary Quiz and Chips which takes place twice a year – usually in Spring and Autumn. Our next Quiz will be held on Friday 15 November in School. It's a great night out with friends (you book a table of 8), we run a bar selling wine, prosecco, lager, bitter and cider, as well as a range of soft drinks, and halfway through the Quiz we break to eat fish and chips provided by Nik's in Belper. Details of this event will be circulated in a separate communication, so watch out for it, as tables sell out fast!!

## We would love you to join us!

We always need volunteers to join the PSFA and help us raise money to help the School. As School budgets are squeezed even tighter, it is essential that PSFA continues to organise events to raise funds, but to do so we need a large pool of volunteers. If you are able to get involved we would love to hear from you.

The 2023-4 academic year saw us raise a record amount – a massive £14,442.81. Would you like to help us raise even more for 2024-5? If so, or you would just like to know more about the role of the PSFA, please get in touch at [events@ecclesbournepsfa.co.uk](mailto:events@ecclesbournepsfa.co.uk)

It's fun, you will make lots of new friends and never have to miss an event that your child is participating in if you are helping out with the event!

Kind regards,

The PSFA Committee