



# THE ECCLESBOURNE SCHOOL

*'Learning Together For The Future'*

Head Teacher  
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## End of Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a packed and eventful term at The Ecclesbourne School and invite you to share in it through the newsletter.

One of the highlights of our school year was the House Plays earlier this month involving 400 students from all year groups. Led by our Sixth Form House Captains, they showcased creativity, teamwork, and the strength of our school community. Nightingale won with their production of 'Men in Black', while Flamsteed continued their winning streak in the House Dance competition. Special congratulations to Marcel Szeremeta and Tom Buckley for their outstanding acting in 'Cars'. Every House Captain deserves recognition for their leadership and inspiration. Our school thrives for a range of reasons and not least because of student leadership. From Prefects and Co-Heads to House Captains, Student Council members, Buddy Readers, Peer Mentors, and Anti-Bullying and Wellbeing Ambassadors, students of all ages take on roles that make a real difference. This culture of mutual respect, and community is very important to us.

Academically, our students achieved outstanding results at GCSE and A Level again this year. Most importantly, every student was supported to achieve their potential, whatever their starting point. At GCSE, 91% gained five good passes at grades 9–4. At A Level, 65% of grades were A\*–B, with 35% at A\*–A. For the second year running, The Ecclesbourne School has been named among the Top 10 non-selective state schools in the East Midlands by The Sunday Times - an achievement that reflects the hard work of our students and staff and the support of our parents and carers.

This Christmas, I look back over fifteen years as Head Teacher. Working together with our governors, we have transformed our campus in that time: a new Sports Hall, MUGA, Refectory, English Block, Theatre, MFL building, Sixth Form extension, and refurbishments of the Humanities and Science Faculty buildings. Every child has their own laptop, enabling innovative teaching and learning and helping students access learning materials so that they can thrive academically. Looking ahead, we continue to work on our next major project - the Technology Block. Architect's visualisations in the Christmas Newsletter show the exciting plans. We are close to securing the funds needed to begin, and detailed planning for the construction phase will start next academic year, with a view to breaking ground the year after. This modernisation will further enhance the academic and practical opportunities available to our students.

**Please note that, as usual, term ends at 2:40 p.m. on Friday. Students who need to stay in school to wait for collection will be in the Library.**

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our parents, carers, and children a happy and restful Christmas. Thank you for your continued support and for being part of our school community. Let us celebrate this year's achievements and look forward to another successful year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

James McNamara  
Head Teacher