



28 March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

We have reached the end of another term and I hope this finds you well.

It has been a busy term with a lot happening both in and out of the classroom. The Year 11s have completed their mocks and I want to thank them and say we are really proud of how they have handled the workload and the maturity they have demonstrated throughout this extremely intensive period. The students have also completed their college applications too. They have been a year group who have grown into superb role models for the rest of the school. They have been through a challenging time for obvious reasons but have become a real credit to us and we have big hopes for them as they enter the final term of their Ecclesfield careers.

The Year 9s have gone through the options process which is a particularly challenging time as they look to their futures. They have done so well with this and showed real maturity and enthusiasm for what lies ahead. The Year 10s are preparing for their Work Experience and are continuing with their GCSE and Vocational Courses. They all had the opportunity for a one-to-one interview with a guest from our community which went down well. The students were superb and really took on the challenge in a very mature manner and demonstrated real grit.

We had an incredibly powerful assembly for Years 7-11 at Ecclesfield two weeks ago. Inspirational guest speaker Alicia Manners joined us to raise awareness and share the dangers and consequences of 'One Punch'. Alicia's vital message of choosing non-violent methods to solve conflict and to "Stop. Think. Make a choice" will definitely stay with us.

A highlight of this term was the school production of 'We Will Rock You'. It always fills me with huge pride when I see the whole school coming together to put this on. In a time when some schools are not putting these shows on, we have been clear that this is a highlight of our school year. The support of the community has been huge with over 1200 people attending and the 200 students who are involved will not forget this experience. The staff involved were brilliant in giving their time over weekends and I know the students involved are so thankful for this dedication. The school is rightfully proud of our tradition and history of school productions and this year adds to this legacy.

Our Year 9 football team took part in the Sheffield Cup Final at the weekend, they played superbly well and won 4-0. They were brilliant ambassadors for our school, and they continued our history of football success within this city.

Acting Headteacher: Mr R Walkden
Address: Chapeltown Road, Sheffield, S35 9WD
Telephone: 0114 2461156
Email: enquiries@eccoschool.com
Web: www.ecclesfield-school.com

We had a great World Book Day with a special guest author and poet Mike Garry who did workshops across all 5-year groups on the importance of literature. The students involved had a great experience.

We had the Year 7 Production on Monday which involved over 80 students, this is remarkable and testament to the fantastic Drama department we have. The students were a credit and demonstrates the talent we have in this school.

We held a Lockdown procedure last week which we planned, and the students were fantastic in dealing with this unusual situation. We will revisit this moving forward and I pray it is the only in planned conditions that we will do this.

Our school values of work hard, show grit, aim high and be kind are needed now more than ever. We have challenges ahead as we move into the final term, a key drive is attendance. The research will show you the link between attendance and success. We must get the attendance figures up to pre-pandemic level and we make no excuse in chasing this.

I want to thank all the staff who have worked extremely hard this term and as always have gone above and beyond. I am extremely proud in leading this group of staff, they are skilled, passionate and determined to give our children the best education possible.

Finally, I wish you a lovely break and look forward to working together and sharing more of our success into the summer term. As a school we have a lot to look forward to, we have a full school again for next year and lots of things planned as we move into the final term and beyond into the next academic year.

As a school we are evolving all the time and the nature of both education and society is changing and we are 100% committed to making sure we embrace the challenges that are presented and doing so with all stakeholders on board.

Happy Easter to you all.

We reopen on **Monday 14th April** at 8:40am.

Thank you for your continued support and take care.

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard J Walkden', written in a cursive style.

Richard Walkden
Headteacher