



Eckington School

Chorus Education Trust

19th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of another successful term and prepare for the Festive break, I want to take a moment to reflect on the remarkable achievements of our students and staff over recent months. It has been a term filled with progress, pride, and a shared commitment to school improvement.

Firstly, I would like to commend our Year 11 students for their exceptional conduct during their recent mock exams. Their focus, maturity, and determination have been truly commendable, and we are immensely proud of the way they have approached this critical step in their education. These mock exams provide valuable insights; students will use their results to refine their revision strategies as they prepare for the summer, while teachers will use the outcomes to tailor their lessons to meet the specific needs of each student in the months ahead.

Across the school, we have seen significant improvements in behaviour and attitudes to learning. Students are demonstrating greater responsibility, respect, and a positive approach to their studies, which is fostering a culture of high achievement and mutual support. This improved attitude has been evident not only in classrooms but also in the way students engage with the wider opportunities available to them.

Our curriculum has been enriched this term through numerous educational visits, providing students with inspiring experiences that bring learning to life. Alongside this, the *Eckington Enrichment Programme* has continued to offer a diverse range of extracurricular activities that encourage students to develop new skills, explore their passions, and build lasting friendships.

One of the most poignant moments of the term was our whole-school Remembrance event, during which all 1,200 students and 120 staff came together to honour and pay tribute to those who have served and sacrificed. It was a deeply moving occasion, and I was immensely proud of the respect and thoughtfulness displayed by our school community.

Outstanding Achievement for All

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We are also delighted to have completed reading and spelling age assessments for all students in Years 7, 8, 9, and 10 this term. These assessments are helping us to identify students who may need additional support in these areas, while also ensuring we provide stretch and challenge for those with advanced literacy abilities. By tailoring support to individual needs, we are committed to ensuring that every student can achieve their full potential. Parents will receive their child's reading ages on their next progress report home.

The continued enhancement of our learning environment has also been a highlight of this term. The refurbishment of the Learning Support Department has created a welcoming and modern space to support students' needs, while the installation of new interactive screens in every classroom is transforming teaching and learning. These tools are making lessons more engaging and dynamic, supporting both teachers and students in achieving excellence.

Accompanying this letter is Eckington School's Term 1 Newsletter that includes many articles highlighting some of the many achievements that have occurred since September 2024.

As we reflect on a term full of accomplishments, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff for their tireless efforts, to our students for their hard work and enthusiasm, and to you, our parents and carers, for your ongoing support. It is through this partnership that we continue to make Eckington School a place where everyone can thrive.

On behalf of everyone at Eckington School, I wish you and your families a restful, joyful Festive Break and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday 7th January 2025 to continue building on the fantastic progress we have made this term.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Cronin', with a small flourish at the end.

Richard M Cronin
Headteacher