

23rd May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another busy and productive half term at Eckington School, I wanted to take the opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the achievements of our students and the continued dedication of our staff and wider community.

Firstly, I must commend our Year 11 and Year 13 students for the outstanding way they have approached the exam season so far. Their maturity, resilience, and commitment to their learning has been genuinely inspiring. Each day, we see students revising with flashcards during breaktimes and lunchtimes, with many students opting to stay after school to revise further. These are all clear signs of the high aspirations they hold for themselves; I am incredibly proud of them and the efforts they continue to make.

Beyond the exam halls, our Eckington Enrichment programme continues to thrive. From clubs to educational visits, students have had access to a wide range of opportunities that develop character, curiosity, and confidence. None of this would be possible without the generosity and commitment of our staff, who give their time voluntarily and complete thorough risk assessments to ensure these activities are both safe and enriching. I thank them sincerely for their continued efforts.

We are also very grateful to our local police, who have now delivered their knife crime awareness assembly to all year groups. These sessions are a vital part of our wider work to keep our students safe and well-informed, not only in school but also in the wider community. Our strong and positive relationship with external agencies, including the police, remains a key strength of our school community.

In response to valuable feedback from parents and carers following our regular surveys after each Parents' Evening, I have updated the 'Contact Us' page on our website. It now includes direct email addresses for all key areas of the school, making communication easier and more effective for families. I truly appreciate your continued feedback and will always seek to act on it wherever possible.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce the start of a major improvement project on our school site. Over the next 15 weeks, all glazing and external doors will be replaced as part of a significant investment in our facilities. These upgrades will markedly

## Outstanding Achievement for All

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improve the learning environment from September, enhancing comfort, security, and energy efficiency.

I would also like to take this opportunity to stress the **vital importance of good school attendance**. Students can only achieve their full academic potential if they are in school, engaging in their learning every day. Our individual student attendance target remains 96%, a benchmark that is strongly linked to exam success and positive outcomes later in life. I ask for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school regularly and punctually.

Finally, I'm pleased to share that we are currently fully staffed for September across all year groups which is a reflection of our improving reputation and our ongoing commitment to providing high-quality education for every student.

Thank you for your continued support. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Warm regards,

**Richard Cronin** 

Headteacher

**Eckington School**