



West Park

'A caring school where we put pupils and their achievement first'

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Dear West Park Families

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to a new term and all the best for 2025!

The start of a new year provides the perfect opportunity to reflect on successes from the year before and to consider ways to improve and progress in the year ahead. Having regularly sampled almost every cheese-based product in Aldi over the Christmas break, a lot of my 'improvement' may be based around trotting round the streets of Chaddesden, Spondon and Borrowash over the coming months!

Our pupils and staff have had a really positive return to West Park life and as we slowly awaken from our Christmas slumber, are energised by the opportunities ahead. The next two half-terms last only 6 weeks each and are packed with activities, events and opportunities alongside the rich diet of teaching and learning that goes on at our school. Some of the key dates for this half-term are detailed below:

Tuesday 21 st January	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Friday 31 st January	Year 11 Mock Results
Thursday 6 th February	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 11 th February	Inter-house Chess Competition
Tuesday 11 th February –	
Thursday 13 th February	GREASE – Main Hall 7:00 p.m. (Tickets on sale soon)
Friday 14 th February	Break up for Half-Term

Prior to and over the Christmas period, it was lovely to see a number of you out and about in our community. I am so proud to be part of the area that we live in and to be able to offer support if or when required. Remember that our Eco-shop is accessible to all and is open at 3:00 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays every week. We also work very closely with a number of partner agencies so please do reach out to us if you feel that we may be able to help or assist.

The weather continues to provide us with a number of challenges and I really feel for families in the East Midlands who have already had their homes flooded more than once during the winter period. We are certainly in the middle of a cold snap and even a hardy (questionable!) Scotsman has had to put his coat on, on numerous occasions! If the school is likely to be impacted by adverse weather, we will always make any decisions about opening/closing as early as possible. This information will be shared by email, text, social media channels and on the school website.

Attendance to school is absolutely crucial to enable children to progress and achieve their potential. It is also essential that pupils attend on time. Please be aware that pupils who arrive late to school without a valid reason communicated by a parent/carer, may receive an unauthorised absence for the morning session. This in turn will impact on their overall school attendance.

I really do hope that 2025 is a positive one for all of us, a new year of opportunity and achievement. At some point this year we are likely to have an inspection visit and I look forward to showing them what our school, our community, our staff and ultimately, our children are capable of.

I look forward to seeing you all as the year progresses.

Take care

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott McGregor', written in a cursive style.

Scott McGregor
Head