

EGG SOUP



For the students, by the students...

ISSUE 2 • MARCH 2024

THE STUDENT-LED NEWSPAPER OF EGGESCLIFFE SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

NEW STEM HUB OPENS

IN KEEPING with the space theme of Eggescliffe School, the brand new STEM Hub provided by Cummins will be known as 'Curiosity' after the Mars Rover.

This is the location where the Greenpower F24 racing cars will be built, the YEP will take place, rockets will be built plus many more STEM activities.

'Curiosity' will be powered by solar and soon by a miniature wind turbine.

LEGO CODING COMPETITION

RECENTLY, Year 7 robotics students took part in a coding competition at Nissan in Sunderland.

The team named, 'Hydro', overcame a number of obstacles in programming their Lego Spike to be fully autonomous during a number of close fought heats against schools from across the North East.

Having experienced the loss of their code which they had spent months in writing, the resilience shown from the team was amazing.

To re-create the sequences of code under pressure in that environment was truly excellent to witness. They narrowly missed out on the day but had a fantastic experience.



OFSTED FIND US OUTSTANDING!

by **GETHIN C, SEB C AND CAMERON R**

AS WE'RE SURE many of our readers will know, Eggescliffe School and Sixth Form was visited by Ofsted for the first time in many years.

In an interview with Mr S Pagan in our Music Department, one of our reporters Seb C was told that students were prepared for the Ofsted arrival a day-in-advance, with classes being reminded they

had to "complete learning recaps and make sure all sheets are glued in".

When asked to summarise an Ofsted visit, Mr S Pagan described it as "a nationwide organisation which is responsible for overall school standards".

Lastly, Mr S Pagan was asked what Ofsted's focus was during the Inspections, to which he replied, "From my experiences they tend to monitor behaviour attitude to learning and test results."

Furthermore, Cameron R interviewed Mrs R Jonathan where she was also asked about the preparation for her students.

Mrs Jonathan said, "Lessons continued, it was very much 'business as usual', however students were reminded about politeness and exercise book tidiness".

Mrs R Jonathan's lessons were inspected and she added that, "When teachers are questioned [by Ofsted] it can be nerve-

wracking, but only because we care."

Lastly, Gethin Chad completed a survey post-Inspection where it was revealed that only 25 out of 40 students felt nervous about Ofsted visiting, and only 1 in 4 teachers said that they felt nervous about being inspected.

Ofsted grades schools on a scale, with the best result being 'Outstanding', which we are happy to report Eggescliffe School and Sixth Form received!

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WELCOME

by MR J MORRISON

SINCE ISSUE 1 was published during Christmas 2023, Eggescliffe School and Sixth Form has achieved so much!

We finally had Ofsted visit us, and it was my first inspection too. We're happy to announce that Ofsted's report awarded us as an 'Outstanding' school (the highest award on their scale). This is down to the hard work of everyone at the school, which was described as being "like a family", as everyone from SLT, subject teachers, TAs, site staff, and of course the students, helped contribute towards an impressive few days of inspection.

Ofsted-aside, we have had guest speakers in to various departments, musicals being performed, Year 11 final mock exams, and house football competitions during lunch times. Eggescliffe's results have always spoken for themselves, but 2024 so far has proven that one of the reasons our school is so successful is because of the vast opportunities on offer.

In Issue 2 of Egg Soup, our writers will be reporting on all the visits we've had, including Ofsted's, and everything else that we've achieved since the start of the new year.

Happy reading!

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THE 'NOT VERY CHRISTMASSY CHRISTMAS' QUIZ OF 2023

by ROSE D

FOLLOWING THE COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS (in 2023), Mr Bone one of our maths teachers hosted the Not Very Christmassy Christmas quiz for the sixth formers.

The number of attendees for this anticipated event led to all sixth formers who came having to relocate into the main hall.

Students signed up in teams of no more than six and sat around a table, where each team was given a stack of cards to write their answers on each round.

There was a myriad of rounds consisting of different topics. These included guessing a teacher by their eyes or a baby picture or guessing shows or movies based on different tasks.

Overall, this event was so much fun for all our sixth formers, really getting them into the Christmas spirit. Big thank you to Mr Bone for organising this fabulously festive quiz for our sixth formers and looking great when dressing up as Santa. Congratulations to our winners.

EDITOR'S LETTER

by FENELLA T

ISSUE 2 IS OUT! It's been a hectic but rewarding few weeks for all at Eggescliffe. With our production of *Les Misérables* fast approaching, our outstanding rugby players 'touching down' at Twickenham and the exciting Youth Parliament elections, it's hard to keep up!

When writing this Editor's Letter and reading this term's articles, a thought struck me: what are the star qualities in an Eggescliffe student? Hard work, commitment, and a desire to help others came to mind.

Then I thought about the fabulous news that Eggescliffe has been awarded 'Outstanding' in the March 2024 Ofsted inspection. Many of our writers and Student Leaders were involved in making the inspection a success, representing themselves and the school impeccably.

The way that the students have balanced their commitments while also ensuring the school received such fantastic results is really something to be admired.

Therefore, I'd like to say it's an honour to be a part of Egg Soup and to work with all the students who make Eggescliffe such a wonderful place to be. The attributes I thought about when wondering what makes an Eggescliffe Student match perfectly with the attributes of the students involved in this issue. They are a credit to the school and the community, and I hope that shines through when you read these wonderful articles.

So, whether Mr Bone's 'Not So Christmassy Quiz' is something you'd take a chance at, or whether you'd like to be transformed into 1830s France in *Les Misérables*, there is something for everyone in this term's issue.



GET INVOLVED! EGG SOUP IS GROWING...

We're looking for: writers, photographers, proofreaders, subeditors, music correspondents, sports journalists, advertising sales reps, community champions, department liaisons and more...

If you'd love a career in the media, this is a fantastic way to build your portfolio. Email us at: info@eggescliffe.org.uk or pop along to a session to find out more.



POETRY LIVE AT YORK

by STEPH M

POETRY came alive for our Year 11s on 8th February as they attended Poetry Live at York Barbican.

Here, they were lucky enough to hear the poets from their 'Power and Conflict' anthology perform and discuss their pieces.

It was amazing to be in the same room as so many talented writers. An audience with Simon Armitage, the current Poetry Laureate, is not something you get to experience every day.

He talked about his heart-wrenching poem Remains, bringing it to life in a way that is impossible by simply reading the poem on paper.

Esther from Y11 said, "It was inspiring to hear the actual viewpoints," which emphasises how truly invaluable this experience was.

John Agard was also very popular with our students, with his poem Checking Out Me History exploring themes of race, identity and conflict.

Nell from Year 11 stated that the experience was "incredibly useful, and hearing the poets talking about their own intentions and messages really helped put the 'Power and Conflict' section of our exam into context".

A DRAMATIC 2024 SO FAR

by WILL L

COMEDY AND DRAMA combined this term as Flynn Hutchinson, a Sixth Former at Eggescliffe, presented an original play called A Murder Mystery.

The comical murder mystery was performed in the Drama

Theatre on 9th February, featuring a cast full of friends of Flynn (all talented sixth formers) including Kyle Macdonald, Isla Woodward, Nathan Guest, Steph Mackey, Ryan Smith and Flynn Hutchinson.

All funds from the play's ticket sales went towards the Campaign

for Arts to help future potential actors have good opportunities in the future.

In other news, some of our Year 9s will be hoping to see 'Blood Brothers' the play, now that it has been taught in English. For those unaware, 'Blood Brothers' is a play about two twins separated

at birth who live completely opposite lives. Inevitably, they meet again despite their mother Mrs Johnstone giving Edward to the wealthier Lyons family and keeping Mickey herself.

There's also a performance of 'Les Miserables' which is very exciting, too!

DO YOU HAVE A TALENT?

by PIERCE Z

GEAR UP EGGESCLIFFE, there are TWO talent shows round the corner! We have the amazing opportunity to be holding two events to showcase YOUR talents. Eggescliffe Talent Show and Eggescliffe Talent are set to turn local talent into a sea of creativity.

Get ready for the debut of Eggescliffe's talents.

Within our school, a rising

intricacy of talents is preparing to take the spotlight.

The true value for our events is in its celebration of unity. Every talent builds a judge-ready wonder constructed by you. See your friends step into the spotlight and bring a unique exhibit to the stage.

However, beyond our peers, lie the unspoken talents of our teachers. Artistic expressions of unseen talents lie in our subject masters.

There is more Eggescliffe talent than you think! Imagine your favourite maths teacher doing comedy...

If there is someone you would like to see someone in the show, get them to enter and submit interest so that the talent show team knows about you.

As the curtain parts, we are left with the magic of Eggescliffe's talents – an unforgettable journey into the heart of our amazing community.

**YOU COULD
ADVERTISE HERE!**

SINGERS LEARN FROM SAMLING EXPERT

by HEIDI M AND
NIAMH S

SINGING is taking centre stage at Eggescliffe this term.

Currently we are in the run up to our performance of *Les Misérables* which is taking place from Friday 12th April and Saturday 13th April.

The cast ranges from Year 7 all the way to Year 13 and is filled with incredibly talented singers and actors. We are very excited to showcase all the hard work put into created such a strong show.

As well as this, recently we have been having visits from Miranda Wright, a teacher at Samling Academy, which is a school for classical singers in the North-East. We have received a masterclass over the past few weeks, and the pieces she has done with us are incredible quality. Not only has she incredibly benefitted the choir at Eggescliffe, she has taught us many things which you would often have to go to a prestigious academy like Samling to access. We are very grateful to have Miranda in to teach us!



FANTASTIC FUNDRAISERS

Isla W and Imogen S, both Y7, raised £152.60 this term for Cancer Research UK by selling handmade phone charms, Cancer Research bracelets and orange ribbon badges.

This is an amazing achievement by two wonderful students.



ARTISTS INSPIRE ART

by LILY C-J

SO FAR IN ART this year we have studied multiple artists and their work, and we've recreated some of their work and made our own versions of it.

More recently, we studied Georgia O'Keeffe and Jim Dine and made our own pieces based

off of O'Keeffe's work and used pencil and acrylic paint to recreate some of Dine's work.

Before that, we focused on natural and man-made pieces of art and some observational studies using different techniques and tools like paint, watercolour, coloured pencil, 2 and 4B pencils, black pen, scalpels and more.

Once we finish studying an artist or a topic, we make a board and put all our art onto it.

Additionally, we've made one observational board, one natural and manmade board, one Georgia O'Keeffe and I'm currently working on a Jim Dine board.

My favourite part is making the boards at the end of a topic

or artist study and exploring different ways to create an interesting board.

Once we've finished our boards, we are going to move onto doing portraits of people and how to get proportions right. I've personally really enjoyed Art in 2024 so far, and I'm looking forward to the next part of the course.

Y6 TRANSITION IS NOT FAR

by **ZINA N**

AHEAD OF YEAR 6 TRANSITION in the Summer of 2024, everyone at Egg Soup felt it might be worthwhile producing an information pack, so that by the time Primary students come to visit our school there will be an Issue produced including an article detailing the ins and outs of what will happen on the day!

As a result, I have created a breakdown of the day...

School day

School starts at 8.45am when you have form for 20 minutes which is time to develop Maths and English skills and ask your tutor any questions you have. You have five different lessons a day that last an hour with a 20-minute break in the morning and a 50-minute lunch in the afternoon. The school day finishes at 3.15pm.

Enrichment

Our school provides a variety of different subjects for a variety of different interests such as Sport, Drama, Music, Business Enterprise, STEM, Duke of Edinburgh, charity events, revision classes and many more. These clubs take place in the mornings, lunchtimes and after school and they help enhance your educational experience.

The Peake Building

We moved into the £7.1m state-of-the-art Peake building in April 2023. This building includes 32 classrooms and zero carbon technologies in the design. The subjects it houses are the Art, Music, Geography, Maths, Religious Studies and History Departments, as well as the main school dining room.

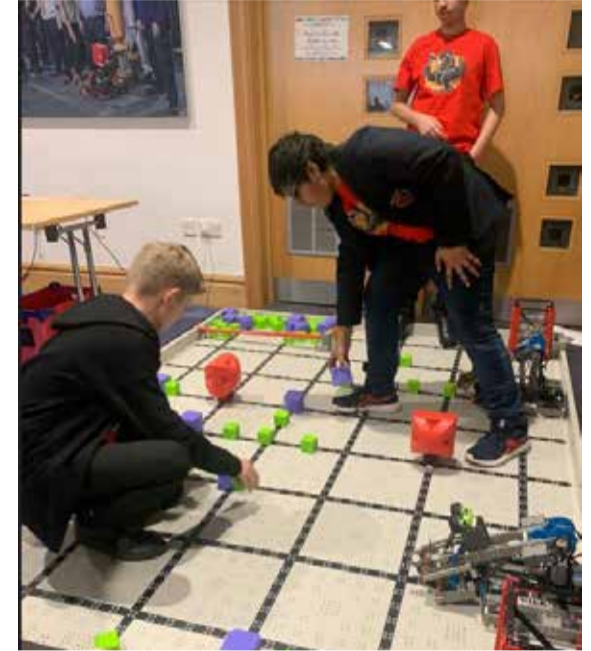
There is also a dedicated SEND suite. Our school has had many links to space since 1962 when it opened so this new building was named after the astronaut Tim Peake. The sport department also had an upgrade around this time with a full-size AstroTurf pitch. By the time you have joined the school the school field will be extended, and 5 full size tennis courts will be built.

Curriculum

In Key Stage 3 (Year 7, 8 and 9), you will study Mathematics, English, Science, History, Geography, Religious Education, Computing, Design and Technology, Physical Education, Art, Music and Drama. Students also study one Modern Foreign Language (either French or German).

You also get a lesson of PHSE once a week to prepare you for life after school.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.



Pictured are some Enrichment Activities: (above left) The Brass Band, (above right) the Young Engineers Robot Club and (below) the students in the cast of Les Miserables perform at the Christmas Concert.



SUPERB 2023 GCSE RESULTS

ACHIEVED BY OUR AMAZING STUDENTS

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| <h1 style="font-size: 2em;">68%</h1> <p style="color: white; font-weight: bold;">GRADE 5 OR HIGHER IN ENGLISH AND MATHS</p> | <h1 style="font-size: 2em;">89%</h1> <p style="color: white; font-weight: bold;">GRADE 4 OR HIGHER IN ENGLISH AND MATHS</p> | <h1 style="font-size: 2em;">7%</h1> <p style="color: white; font-weight: bold;">GRADE 9 RESULTS ACHIEVED</p> | <h1 style="font-size: 2em;">30%</h1> <p style="color: white; font-weight: bold;">GRADE 7 OR HIGHER RESULTS ACHIEVED</p> | <h1 style="font-size: 2em;">87%</h1> <p style="color: white; font-weight: bold;">GRADE 4 OR HIGHER RESULTS ACHIEVED</p> |
|---|---|--|---|---|



FESTIVE CONCERT SUCCESS

THE LAST DAY of last term before Christmas was a day of celebration as students, staff and families packed into the main hall for a concert of music and singing.

Organised by our award-winning Music Department and supported by the Friends of Eggescliffe Music, the evening was a fantastic showcase of the talent we have in all years of the school.

The students are now busy rehearsing for their sell out Musical Theatre performance of Les Miserables at ARC in the Easter holidays.

ROBOTICS ON SHOW

THE STUDENTS from the Young Engineers robotics project took their robot 'Byte' to the regional competition at Newcastle University recently.

Strangely named 'Chicken Hammer of War', the team have excelled in the design and build of the robot, and then to code it so that not only can it be autonomous, but also working as part of an alliance with other schools, take full control of the robot using the controller.

The robot had to pick up cubes in its jaws and place them in the goals in the corners of the playing fields.

The students have worked really well together this year and are now ready to move up to the VEX V5 robot.

ETHAN WINS VOTE FOR PARLIAMENT

by YIMIKA F

DEMOCRACY was in action as students cast their votes on 12th February to choose their representatives for the Youth Parliament.

Rewind to a week before to this when form teachers broke the news to the public. There were posters and stickers everywhere, on shirts, ties and noticeboards.

A plethora of advertisements promoting Oliver Mackey and Ethan Gatenby, two of our very own students, for the positions.

Later, Oliver and Ethan, who won a placement in the Youth Parliament, will talk more about their experience and views on the Youth Parliament. Let's explore the definition of the Youth Parliament first, though.

The UK Youth Parliament is a fantastic organisation for young people in the UK.

It's all about giving the youth a voice and a chance to make a difference. They sometimes meet with Members of Parliament and engage in campaigns and discussions. It's a great opportunity for youth to get engaged and express their opinions on important issues.

Oliver's primary concern was to provide students who don't feel heard a voice in the classroom.

Ethan was passionate about improving the mental health of the youth.

When asked what motivated Oliver the most, he said he has always been enthusiastic about politics.

He has always wished to help others during difficult times. He felt as though the role was beckoning to him. In this interview, he told us all to "be honest and loyal to what you believe in", very much in line with the motto of our school: 'Be the best you can be'.

He also advised anyone who is considering joining the Youth Parliament to "just go for it, no matter what."

Ethan, who won a placement in the Youth Parliament, opened



up about his feelings during the whole process.

He said, "Before I began [my campaign] I was kind of nervous because I'd never done anything like it before but then when I actually got started with it all (posters and stuff), I got more confident but I was still worried I would lose because there were twelve other candidates. And then after I won, I was excited at the

"Be honest and loyal to what you believe in..."

prospect of going to Parliament myself."

After his victory, when asked which areas he would improve in politics, Ethan responded, "I believe mental health support

and more opportunities for young people should be targeted."

Ethan's advice to younger students hoping to get into politics were "to research politics locally and join political events".

Long-term aims for Ethan in terms of his political career include "becoming an MP (Member of Parliament), but embrace A-Level Politics at A-Level and University first". Congratulations, Ethan!

THE IMPORTANCE OF MATHS

by **KATE G**

IN THE LANDSCAPE of secondary education, few subjects are as universally recognised for their importance as mathematics.

From algebra to calculus, geometry to statistics, the study of Maths forms the cornerstone of a well-rounded education. Beyond its practical applications in subjects such as Science, Engineering, and Economics, Maths is crucial in developing essential cognitive skills such as problem-solving and reasoning.

In this article, we delve into why Maths is so important at Secondary, and explore the invaluable skills it nurtures in students.

- **Critical Thinking:** Maths is a catalyst for nurturing critical thinking abilities among students. Solving mathematical problems requires more than just memorisation as it needs

logical reasoning and analysis skills. By grappling with complex mathematical concepts, students learn to solve problems, identify patterns and devise approaches to find solutions.

- **Problem-Solving:** At its core, Maths is the art of problem-solving. Whether it be unravelling the mysteries of equations or deciphering the intricacies of geometry, students engage in a continuous exercise of problem-solving. Through this process, students can learn to break down difficult problems into manageable components, apply relevant strategies and persist in the face of setbacks. These problem-solving skills are not only applicable in Maths but also in real-world scenarios, equipping students with the resilience and adaptability necessary to navigate life's challenges.

- **Logical Reasoning:** Maths is all about logic and built on rules.

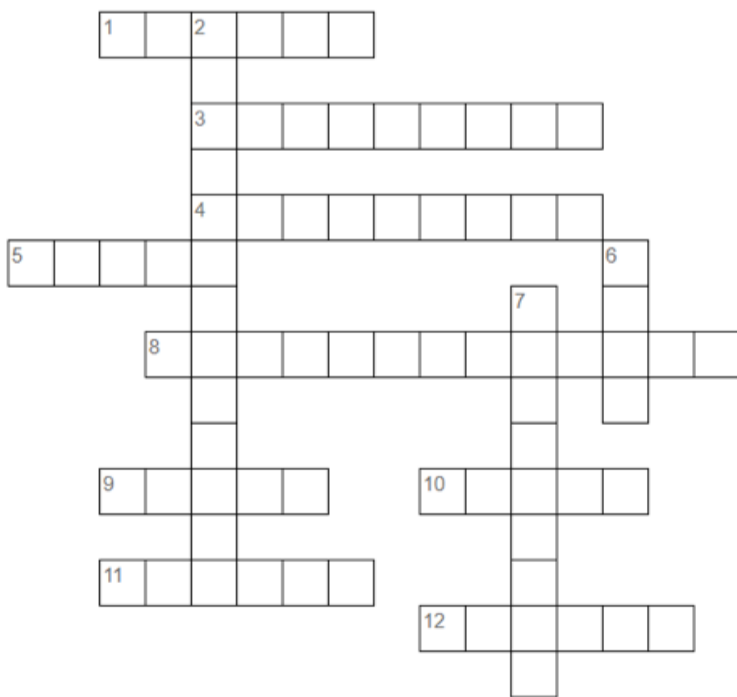
Engaging with mathematical reasoning trains students to think logically, distinguish cause-and-effect relationships, and construct arguments. This proficiency in logical reasoning creates clarity and precision in communication, allowing students to navigate the complexities of an increasingly difficult world.

- **Preparation for Future Success:** Professions including finance and technology increasingly demand mathematical skills. A solid understanding of the subject opens doors to a range of career opportunities and allows students to thrive in an ever-evolving job market. Furthermore, the problem-solving and reasoning skills fostered in Maths are invaluable in any career.

Conclusively, the study of Maths at Secondary is indispensable, as now more than ever employers are seeking workers who can solve problem and think on their feet!



PUZZLES BY ROSE D



Across
 1 What kind of show has been advertise to display a special skill?
 3 What kind of light can be projected onto one person?
 4 What did Ofsted do when they visited our school?
 5 What have Year 11 been doing to prep for exams?
 8 What will the Year 6s be doing when they go into Y7?
 9 Maths is a subject where you need to problem...?
 10 What is the latest new build named after?
 11 Who recently inspected Eggescliffe?
 12 What kind of research did one of our writers use to gather info from students?

Down
 2 What very famous musical are the drama and music departments performing soon?
 6 What kind of Christmas activity did the Sixth Formers do in December?
 7 Who wrote 'checking out me history'?

I T I I Y A S P P K D E E L I K Q H P R
 P Z A Q R C Y O A O G N E N T G T H A E
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|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Armitage | Reasoning | Miranda | Enrichment |
| Brothers | Youth | Parliament | Okeeffe |
| Dramatic | Art | Results | Poetry |
| Maths | Choir | Blood | Thinking |
| Outstanding | Eggescliffe | Curriculum | |

EGG SPORT!

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NETBALL SUCCESS

The U16 and U14 netball teams have had great success so far in the Sisters n Sport Netball National Shield Competition.

The U16 team got through to the National Finals and the U14 team are currently at the Quarter Final stage of their tournament.

The U16s were invited down to Loughborough University to play in the finals in March, and narrowly missed out, losing 24-25 to Beaconsfield School from Reading.

The team reported back that the whole trip to Loughborough was fantastic. A huge congratulations all round.



A MATCH TO REMEMBER

by **SOPHIE C**

TWICKENHAM welcomed our rugby team earlier this term as part of an exceptional reward for their hard work.

After winning the national 'Touch 2 Twickenham' event last summer, the team were "very proud" their hard work had paid off. Our mixed gender rugby team were invited to the exhibition match on 9th February at the esteemed Rugby Football Union headquarters, Twickenham Stadium, as an amazing prize opportunity.

To start the Twickenham weekend off with a tradition, the team went to the cinema and had Nando's, which is unsurprisingly a tradition everyone hopes will not change.

A member of the team noted how "relaxing together is how we have become stronger".

This bond between members has certainly participated in their history of success with a streak of winning many matches against local teams and events further afield.

The presentation of sport in the media, events in schools, and

sports clubs are very impactful to our generation. Sometimes sport can be viewed as an inaccessible industry.

However, our rugby team want to help exemplify rugby as suitable for a wide range of players of all body sizes, differences and genders.

Through this, the group has become undoubtably an inspiration for Egglecliffe students and we hope that they will continue this positive image through their sport.

On the day of the match, with anticipation mounting up, after

some practice the team delivered a pre-match flag display and went on to sing the national anthem on the pitch. Nervous? Well, 81,000 people were watching!

The pinnacle point of their amazing reward was ultimately watching the England vs Wales match, with England leaving triumphant with a 16-14 scoreline.

This was an incredible opportunity for our skilled rugby team whose members said, "We are thankful to be part of such an experience," and added, "We hope it happens again."

Support the FRIENDS OF EGGLESCLIFFE MUSIC

Donating just £4 per month helps us to raise funds to support our music groups and choirs, buy equipment for the music department and contribute to visits.

Egglecliffe has a world-renowned music department that encourages students to learn and perform. Help us support future generations of students

to excel and have a chance to win cash prizes four times a year. Find out more on Facebook at www.facebook.com/friendsofegglecliffeschoolmusic

