



Mrs Z J Fisher  
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26<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe we are in the final term, but the weather last week gave us a glimmer of just how wonderful it is to be here in the sunshine!

The minibus is booked every Tuesday night to take the boarders out to The Mere for fresh air, a swing in the park and a walk by the water but unfortunately, to date, the weather has been set against us. Let us hope it's good next Tuesday.

There are a few areas I would like to cover in this letter: Exam Week; the St John's Picnic and the End of Term.

Firstly, a few parents have enquired about the forthcoming school exams. In all schools a level of summative assessment is needed to gauge how much information, or how many skills an individual pupil has processed through the year. Are they important? Yes. The children should see these exams as an opportunity to display their knowledge. As a teacher myself, it helps to see where there are gaps in understanding as this informs planning for the following year. In St John's we encourage the children to revise as soon as they are ready to. It has been pleasing to see a number of children already putting together notes and going through books. Rest assured we take study time seriously and the week itself is not a week for exciting activities but for calm and relaxation in between the exam days. The school timetable is collapsed during these days and the children are given slots during the day for revision preceding the examination. A good book is needed for those who finish early. Whilst my team and I endeavour to help all our boarders revise, we cannot give individual attention to one child and neglect the rest. We appreciate that as parents you are keen to ensure your children will be on top form, we will do our utmost to ensure this is the case.

The white calendar lists the events and activities planned for the term. You may have noticed the St John's picnic is on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June. This year we would like to invite families to attend. Our picnic takes place by The Mere in Ellesmere and the children have asked for Sports Day style games. We will pick up pre-ordered fish and chips, take bottles of pop or water, and generally have a relaxed, fun evening. If you would like to join in the fun (no obligation to join in the sports!) please email [zoe.fisher@ellesmere.com](mailto:zoe.fisher@ellesmere.com) with numbers and food choices. (Fish, sausage, pie – the usual "chippie" menu and drink choice please). We will meet by The Mere at 6pm and be back in House by 8.30pm. It is worth mentioning that the Lower School Play "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" is on the following two nights, so anyone travelling up for the play may like to book accommodation.



# Ellesmere

A 7 – 18 Coeducational School

Term finishes on **Saturday** 30<sup>th</sup> June. To those new to Ellesmere, this is a chance for us to celebrate your child's achievements. You will see that there are a number of events on Saturday and this is classed as a "school day" with pupils expected to attend. The House will be open throughout the day for you to pack belongings away. International students can leave one box in my office over the holiday. If you are unable to attend, or if your child is leaving early, please let me know as soon as possible. I will need travel arrangements, as usual, for all international boarders. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Finally, last week was a reminder that we can have hot days here. Could you please supply a bottle of sun cream and a sun hat for your child to wear?

Thank you all for your support throughout the year and whilst we still have the term ahead, I want you to know that it is a pleasure caring for your children. They have made this year a very happy one.

With Warm Regards,

*Zoe Fidler*