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7th June 2019

Dear Parent,

It has been good to enjoy the sunshine towards the end of this week. Pupils have made the most of playing outside. With this in mind and hopefully warmer weather ahead towards the end of term, Sister has asked if parents could pop a cap, sun cream and a reusable water bottle (all named please) into your child's school bag over the forthcoming weeks. With such a comment I am sure we will now have rain!

This term is a very busy one, therefore it is good to give a heads up to a few important dates for your family diary.

Mrs Allen reminds pupils that it is nearly time for the annual **Monduli Walk** - on Monday 24th June. This year she is inviting students to dress up in groups in a 'Safari' theme, strike a pose and have a photo. They may also walk in their costumes if they wish. There will be prizes for the best Safari Selfie and for the biggest fundraisers. The money is used to help Nanja Secondary School near Monduli. They have no water at all, and are currently collecting water from a cattle pond 10 minutes away from their village. Funds will help build 30,000 litre concrete water tanks. We hope to build 4 tanks over time. Each tank costs £3,128 (with variations dependant on exchange rate). Mrs Allen asks that if you would like to know more about the project, would like to put your company name on a water tank or if you would like to join us on the day, please do email her: cathy.allen@ellesmere.com

Mrs Reynolds asked me to mention that deposits for the Year 7 and 8 2020 Spanish trip are now due. She will be booking places next week.

The Lower School Music Concert is on Thursday 20th June and is usually a lovely evening. We welcome all families to come along and enjoy the music in the Arts Centre starting at 6.30pm. More details will follow closer to the time.

The rehearsals for the Year 7/8 play are well under way. 'The Boy Who Fell into a Book' will be performed in the Arts Centre on the evenings of Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th June. This is an early date for your diary. It would be lovely to see as many families as possible!

Year 8 are also busy preparing for English Speaking Board examinations held in the week of 24th June.

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The Year 8 pupils took part in a STEM engineering day today. The aim of such a link study focus is to develop independent learning in science, technology and maths. The particular emphasis on innovative thinking and practical design/construction of ideas really did show that we have intelligent pupils in this year group. All of these skills prepare for a modern world of future employment.

The Book Fair was in School before half term. It was quite an exciting event for the pupils in Lower School as they browsed the new edition offerings. All pupils should have a reading book available for independent reading time in School. Obviously, the School library is a super alternative option too.

It was impressive to see that Lower School has done better than ever in the national qualifying rounds, with five swimmers qualifying to swim at the National Finals. Well done to Oliver Covill, Brooke Illingworth, Eleanor Broughton, James Raw and Katie Hale.

We wish the swimmers well at the Preston Open Meeting this weekend and also hope that the Cricket teams fare well when they play King's School, Chester.

Our congratulations are also extended to Francine Gilmore, Year 8, who won a gold medal and two silver medals in Shooting at the Cumbria & Northumberland Air Championships during half-term. We wish her the best of luck for the West Midlands GB Laser Run Series this weekend.

Lower School pupils will be going on expeditions shortly, please see quick reference grid below.

In addition to that, here are some more points to consider:

Pupils will need sun lotion if the weather is good; a sun hat is also a good idea.

Year 3 and 4 can bring their wellingtons on the Tuesday, in a plastic bag.

Year 8 will be going to 'Climbing the Walls' in Shrewsbury on the Wednesday so sensible clothing such as the School sports kit would be best to wear or take along to change in to. Trainers are essential.

On Thursday 4th July we have the Key Stage 2 swimming gala, which parents are welcome to come along to in the morning. Key Stage 2 can come to School in their tracksuit bringing their swimming kit and PE kit, as they will need it for Sports Day, in the afternoon.

Years 7 and 8 have activities in the morning and Sports Day in the afternoon. They can also come to School in their tracksuit, bringing their PE kit with them.

A small day bag is required for all trips out of School. Spending money allowance is at parents' discretion and will be the child's responsibility. Items such as phones, if you feel your child needs to bring one, will also be the child's responsibility throughout this time.

Lunch and tea will be provided by School as will drinks but you may wish to supplement this.



Day/Year	Year 3 and 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Tuesday 2 nd July	RSPB Lake Vyrnwy <i>Outdoor clothing, waterproofs, trainers, walking boots and wellington boots, small day bag</i>	Roman Soldier in School <i>Own comfortable clothes or school tracksuit and trainers</i>	Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester <i>School Uniform and small day bag</i>	Castles trip <i>Own comfortable clothes, waterproof jacket, trainers and small day bag</i>	Chester Zoo <i>Own clothes, trainers and small day bag</i>
Wednesday 3 rd July	Attingham Park <i>Outdoor clothing, waterproofs, trainers, walking boots and wellington boots, small day bag</i>	Chester Zoo <i>Own clothes, trainers and small day bag</i>	Weston Park <i>Own comfortable clothes, waterproof jacket, trainers and small day bag</i>	Spaceport and Mersey Ferry <i>Own comfortable clothes, waterproof jacket, trainers and small day bag</i>	Climbing Wall/ Shrewsbury Prison <i>School tracksuit, trainers and small day bag</i>
Thursday 4 th July	KS2 Swimming gala am Sports Day pm <i>Swimming kit and sports kit</i>	KS2 Swimming gala am Sports Day pm <i>Swimming kit and sports kit</i>	KS2 Swimming gala am Sports Day pm <i>Swimming kit and sports kit</i>	KS3 Activities am Sports Day pm <i>Sports kit</i>	KS3 Activities am Sports Day pm <i>Sports kit</i>

On a safety note please, I have been asked to request that care and attention is given to the use of cars whilst dropping off and picking up children. As you will appreciate, this is vital in the Lower School car park but also important around at the various stops when the School coach picks up/drops off a child. A number of cars were parked in a rushed way and they obstructed the view of other drivers at a particular stop this week. The coach driver was concerned for the safety of the children and other road users. Thank you in advance for this.

I hope that the sun shines for you this weekend and it is a good one!

Yours sincerely,

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