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19th October 2018

Dear Parent,

May I begin this week's Newsletter with a heartfelt thank you to parents and pupils for their help at Open Day last Saturday. It was a very successful event and once again, our best assets were the children. We always appreciate the support that Parents provide with respect to transporting children to College. Many pupils had performed in the Charity Concert the evening before, played in fixtures in the morning and then stayed with us to help with Open Day. Their efforts are truly recognised!

There have been pupils singing in the corridors, scene rehearsals in corners of rooms, dance routines perfected at break times and it has been a fabulous atmosphere in Lower School this week. All of this activity is inspired by the House Play event, which is currently in development. The KS2 pupils also sang extremely well in Chapel this morning. There are many fine voices developing in the younger years.

Whilst continuing on a musical note, please do not forget that there will be a warm welcome to parents on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at the Lower School Musical Tea. It will take place in the Lower School Hall at 4.30pm. It is an opportunity for pupils to perform to small, supportive gatherings in their quest for improvement. Refreshments will be served throughout the performances.

There have been a number of solid sport performances throughout the whole of this first half term. Pupils across the full range of sports should be proud of what they have achieved. A large number of pupils have represented the College. The swimmers continue to train hard and have international meetings coming up and there are football, hockey and rugby matches to play this week.

It is a pleasure to note that four Lower School pupils are receiving First Communion in a Chapel service this Sunday, two of whom are also being baptised. It will be lovely to welcome the families of Alix Nicholas, Georgie Prescott, Nathaniel Clewlow and Amelia Robinson to College to share in this important event.

Expeditions begin next week. Mrs Morgan has circulated details for each age group with respect to venue and clothing requirements etc. Year 7 have a slightly different structure, as they will travel to their residential stay on Wednesday. They have an educational experience day in School on Tuesday. Please contact Mrs Leonard, the Lower School Secretary should you have further queries.

During expeditions the KS2 children will be putting on a "Play in a Day" with the Konflux Theatre. This is something that parents are invited to watch. The performances will be at 2.45pm on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October for Years 3-5 and 2.45pm on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October for Year 6. Please find a reply slip below to return to Mrs Leonard should you wish to attend.

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The College Medical Sister has asked me to remind parents to do regular checks of their child's hair for head lice. Obviously, in such a busy and close community, such unwanted visitors can arrive from time to time. Half term is a good time for a thorough check.

Many of our new pupils are ready for the rest that half term will bring. Many children have worked extremely well this term and have found the school day a long one here at Ellesmere. It is pleasing to see that many take it in their stride. I am sure that the half term rest will allow them to recharge batteries ready for the second half of this Michaelmas term, which is always very busy.

Have a good half term once it arrives.

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Year 3 and 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October  Lion Salt Works and Ice Cream Farm Own clothes/trainers Day bag	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October  Celts day, Wrexham Old clothes / wellingtons/boots/trainers Day bag	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October  Quarry Bank Mill,  Styal  School uniform  Day bag	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October  STEM Challenge in School School uniform	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October  Chill Factore Snow Park  Gloves, thick socks, suitable waterproofs, warm clothes for playing in the snow at -3 degrees, plus a change of clothes.
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October  Play in a Day in School Konflux Theatre Own clothes	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October  Play in a Day in School  Konflux Theatre  Own clothes	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October  Sarehole Mill, Birmingham Own clothes Day bag	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October  PGL Boreatton See kit list	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October  Black Country Museum Own clothes Day bag/trainers
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> October  Techniquest, Wrexham and Candle Factory Old clothes/trainers Day bag	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> October  Wolverhampton Art Gallery Workshops Own clothes/trainers Day bag	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> October  Play in a Day in School Konflux Theatre Own clothes	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> October <b>PGL Boreatton</b>	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> October  Flamenco/Spanish day in School Own clothes/trainers
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October  Lessons School uniform	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October  Lessons School uniform	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October  Lessons School uniform	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October  Return pm from PGL	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October  Lessons School uniform

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