



S Owen
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1st March 2018

Dear Parent,

It has been a good first week back after half term. It was a great opportunity for everyone to get rid of coughs and colds and to start this new half term off in a healthier way.

The voices of our Lower School Musical Drama group appear not to have been affected too much as the hot news from last night is that the Lower School group won their category at the Oswestry Music Festival and gave a superb performance, by all accounts! They were suitably proud this morning and we are hopeful for a rendition in Assembly on Monday. We wish all Lower School musicians and the Choir well in the categories performed over the remaining days. I am sure we will have more to report in next weeks' newsletter.

Jack Arrowsmith (Year 8) has been invited to play for The National Brass Band Associations Championship Section, Northop Silver Band. This is an amazing opportunity as inclusion is purely by invitation from the musical director and is primarily a senior band. This is an amazing opportunity for a boy of 13 years. Well done Jack!

Still on a celebratory note, it is with pleasure I share the success of Lower School Shooting with you. The number of children enjoying shooting is continuing to rise and this is lovely to see. Francine Gilmore (Year 8) took part in the National Open Airgun Championships recently and won silver medal in her class. This is impressive shooting against a strong field of competitors up to 21 years in age. This followed her winning her own class in the Dorset Postal League competition. Well done to all those who shoot and particularly to Francine.

Before half term Mr Williams, Director of Sport organised a fun and enjoyable House Cross Country event. It was good to recognise the fine athletes that we have in Lower School and they received medals in assembly on Monday. I was proud of the team spirit displayed and general effort and attitude of our pupils. They were a credit to their respective Houses.

Well done to the Under 13 netball team who beat Packwood Haugh earlier this week. The team are certainly faring well this season!

Before half term, Lower School acted as host to five Chinese visitors who stayed for the week to experience life in a British boarding school. Our pupils really enjoyed mixing and sharing lessons with the visiting children. The visitors were sad to leave at the end of the week, having made many new friends at Ellesmere.

Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9AB

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www.ellesmere.com

A Woodard School

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Joshua Mellitzer, Katie Hale and Poppy Mainwaring from Year 8, had the opportunity to study at Aston University Birmingham this week. They joined a group of older pupils from Middle School to take part in a Spanish Cultural event. The event was an enrichment activity to explore routes into Modern Foreign Language study. It was pleasing to hear that they not only enjoyed their time but produced work to a very good level too.

The sport team photographs were taken on Wednesday. Orders can be placed on line and Mr Williams will provide log in details shortly.

I feel it opportune to mention a few points regarding keeping pupils safe with electronic communications. It is without doubt worth checking your child’s e-communication regularly on mobiles, tablets and when gaming at home. There is a ‘Calculator app’ circulating at the moment. The app presents itself as an innocent calculator on the app screen. However, once opened it can be used to store information, photos and images in secret. Secondly, there is a lot of upset in the media about pop ups from MOMO. These adverts allegedly pop up on the popular things that children use eg. Youtube clips, games like Fortnite and What’s App. Allegedly, there can also be communications over headphones during gaming. The content encourages children to do dangerous dares. It may be over-hyped in these early stages, but it certainly has very worrying content if it does appear and it is certainly worth a check.

The Ellesmere College Parents' Society would like me to draw your attention to the Quiz and Curry night taking place on 22nd March, 7.30pm in the Arts Centre. The price is £10 pp and this includes curry main and pudding. Please reserve tickets by 15th March on contactecps@gmail.com

Lower school Open Morning is fast approaching on Saturday 30th March. In order that we can be as organised as possible, please could you sign and return the reply slip at the end of the newsletter to indicate that your child could help. The visits from prospective parents begin at 10am and finish at 12noon. Our pupils are the greatest asset on that day and usually act as guides or in activity sessions.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely

Please return to Lower School office

Name of pupil

will/will not **(please cross out as appropriate)**

be available to help with Lower School Open Morning on Saturday 30th March 2019

Signed

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A 7 – 18 Coeducational School

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