



S Owen
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20th January 2023

Dear Parent,

It has been a solid week. The children have been outside a lot when possible, expending energy. It's cross country season too and children will be encouraged to improve personal times.

Lessons have been busy and pupils appear to be working well. We have enjoyed Chapel services, Chapel Clubs and activities. The busy atmosphere has returned.

A number of pupils have been nominated for their kindness towards others. The Kindness Wall of recognition is an ongoing event. We do know that children will get things wrong from time to time. It will be a learning experience for many to share and have empathy to the needs of others. However, our message is always clear and firm in respect of this.

Personal tutors have been working their way through, making the initial contacts to all parents of their tutees. Please remember that the personal tutor is there for families as the first line of contact with any information or concern. Mrs Arrowsmith and Mrs Lowe, the Lower School Secretaries are on hand to help should families wish to email or telephone with a question. If they do not know the answer to a query, they will find out for you, or point you in the right direction. We have support tutors in place too, they know the children well and step in when we can unavoidably have staff absence.

We have a prep room open at lunch times. Pupils are encouraged to manage their time effectively and should another activity cut across the evening prep slot, they may work in the prep room to balance their studies. Personal tutors will help with this. Prep should only last for 20 minutes per subject in Years 7 and 8. Should a child take much more time and struggle with this, please chat to their personal tutor who will help. KS2 teachers will set spellings and reading and generally lead with any directive for that age group. We do not wish children to become anxious learners at such a young age. Maybe give it a week or so for patterns to settle.

We are lucky to have a friendly and active Parent Society at Ellesmere. They organise some wonderful events and they warmly open an invitation to any parent who would like to join their group. They have meetings and a good social time together too. They can be contacted directly on the email <a href="mailto:contactecps@gmail.com">contactecps@gmail.com</a>

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Lunch time activities are going along well. Cricket nets have been popular with chess club and craft club attracting much attention. Indoor football, netball and hockey take place in the sports hall. Information regarding any fixture can be found on the Parent Portal or by email to Mr Chris Horrocks, Director of Sport should things become confusing <a href="mailto:Christopher.Horrocks@ellesmere.com">Christopher.Horrocks@ellesmere.com</a>

Still on a fixture note, it is worth checking the White College Calendar for the forthcoming fixtures. Pupils should play if selected. They will also need a full school uniform for match tea. It is an expectation that all players take the opposition to match tea. We like to promote the etiquette that surrounds playing sport in a friendly and sociable way. Parents are warmly welcome to spectate and join afterwards for refreshments. Please contact either Mr Horrocks or the individual coaching member of staff with any questions. Please could a letter be directed to the Headmaster should a child have problems with playing regularly if they are selected, also please give the Coaches a decent amount of notice to allow another selection etc.

Sadly, some early fixtures have been hit hard by the weather, these will be re-scheduled. The girls had good results in Netball against Adcote this week and the Under 12 boys won the North Shropshire Football tournament. Well done to the College horse riders too. Immy Spencer Blow will go to Hickstead in May representing Shropshire in the 1.10 Show Jumping competition. We also have the team competing for College this weekend. Good luck to all of our sport performers. Perform well!

If anyone would like to join Choir or Lower School Band the (more the merrier), please speak to Mr Fisher simon.fisher@ellesmere.com

Please could we ask that parents inform the Lower School office when children are collected early from School on the Lower School telephone number 01691 626511. The Lower School secretary will bring your child out to you. For safeguarding reasons, it is important that all adults are accounted for on the campus and within the College buildings.

Have a good weekend once it arrives.

Sharan Owen

Yours sincerely,

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