



S Owen  
Head of Lower School  
01691 626511  
Email: sharon.owen@ellesmere.com

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Dear Parent,

The children came back to School buzzing with excitement on Monday. They were pleased to see each other and keen to share their stories of half term. On the whole, it felt like it was a good week of recuperation and they appear ready to take on the remaining challenges of this Lent Term. I do hope that families had some good times together.

I praised the children in Assembly on Monday for their happy dispositions and kindness towards each other. There have been lovely individual moments of kindness and the Kindness Wall is certainly looking very full with names of recognition. We also discussed how lucky we all are to have such a wonderful place in which to study.

The Year 8 pupils are particularly 'stepping up' at the moment, this is really pleasing to see. Many were involved in instigating, planning and running the cake sale to raise funds towards the 'Earthquake Appeal'. The response was superb and over two hundred pounds was raised. Thank you very much for all of your support from home to make it happen. It was super to see that the Year 8 children were so aware of the plight of others and wanted to do something to help.

It was good to welcome the families of Year 8 pupils in to School on Tuesday for Parents' Evening. There was a short presentation beforehand by Mrs Pritt-Roberts, Deputy Head of School Academic and Dr Chatterjee, Deputy Head of School Pastoral regarding the transition from Year 8 to Year 9. Should families have any further questions about processes or choices please contact the Personal Tutor of your child in the first instance. In this way we can seek answers for you from the appropriate personnel.

We have had an exciting World Book Day too this week. Key stage 2 children were challenged to dress in clothes to represent their favourite book characters. There were wonderful and imaginative outfits. The focus was not to go to a huge expense and buy lavish outfits, but merely put a little thought into clothing props to represent a basic character of their choice. There will be photographs to see no doubt.

Sport photographs were planned for this week. However, these now are postponed to a later date owing to the outside photographer having technical difficulties on the planned day. Tutors will keep families up to speed with the replacement date.

Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9AB

Tel: 01691 622321 Fax: 01691 623286

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The Oswestry Music Festival has been running throughout the week and a large number of our pupils have been involved. I have seen a large number of the early results, they look amazing! I will report more fully in next week's letter when we have the overall picture. The main feeling that I am getting is that the children have thoroughly enjoyed the experience, no matter what result emerged.

It's Assessment week next week for all pupils in College. There will be short snapshot assessments to help inform teachers of progress. Period Grades will follow the week afterwards. Pupils are well accustomed to these assessments now and usually take them in their stride.

We are arranging to take the Year 8 pupils to Hollywood Bowling, Shrewsbury on the 15<sup>th</sup> March, details of this trip will be included in next week's newsletter.

We wish pupils good luck and to play well in the forthcoming fixtures. Hopefully the weather will be kind.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,