



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

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019

Dear Parent,

There is a busy atmosphere developing in Lower School.

A reminder again that this Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November is the **Year 7 Parents' Meeting**. It takes place on the top floor of Lower School, starting at 5.30pm. As previously shared, pupils do not attend this evening and it is preferable that pupils go home. A homework room space can be booked **using the slip** provided at the end of this letter or a call to Mrs Leonard. However, as you will appreciate, it is difficult to supervise pupils appropriately when teachers are involved in the Parents' Meeting; therefore, please use this facility as a last resort if possible.

Congratulations are in order to Cici Noss and James Raw who performed exceptionally well at the Stockport Metro swim meet. Both swimmers had a clean sheet of personal best times. James secured top spot in his age group for 1500m freestyle and Cici was ranked number two for the 100m breaststroke and set a College swimming club record, held since 2012. Both Elexi Povey-Abbott and Tristan Aspinall are performing exceptionally well too and Tristan kindly brought his medals in to show us in assembly on Monday. Well done to all swimmers!

Mr Owen, Housemaster to the Lower School pupils, has asked me to remind parents to guide children that expensive electrical items and copious amounts of sweets should not be brought to School.

Pupils are working very hard on the House Plays. This in-house event usually stirs lots of excitement and competition. The House staff become very competitive too! Pupils are busily learning lines and making sets.

This will be a final reminder regarding tickets for the **Pantomime on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.** Please call Mrs Leonard if there are any changes, as Mrs Morgan has ordered tickets and completed a very complicated seating plan. It is also important for pupils to let their tutor know about ice cream choices, as these have to be booked in advance for the pupils. Pupils go in School time and are back for School transport.

An extra item of festive fun and a charity fund generation is the 'Christmas Jumper Day'. Pupils may wear their favorite Christmas jumper on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December for the donation of £1. All proceeds will go to the charity 'Shelter', to help homeless people. This is not in the white College calendar.

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On **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November** the **KS2 pupils (Years 3, 4, 5, 6)** and the Lower School Choir have been invited to the **Parents' Society lighting of the Christmas Tree**. It should be an enjoyable event with carols and refreshments for parents and pupils of KS2. It will be possible for pupils to accompany their parents to the event. Parents are welcome to collect their child at Lower School between 4.10pm and 4.30pm from the form room and then to make their way outside on the playground. The Lower School choir go with Mrs Paul to sing and then they can join their parents afterwards. Pupils may then go home directly after the event with their families. KS2 tutors will look after all unaccompanied children at the event and pupils will then go home under normal arrangements.

It has been good to see pupils also making the most of the drama club, chess club, badminton, rugby club, hockey club, cricket nets and 5-aside football sessions. It is a super way to let off steam at lunchtime during the wet spells of weather.

It is still rather muddy and the weather has been cold and damp for break time. We like the pupils to play in the fresh air when at all possible therefore, please could all pupils have a plain outdoor coat for School. A change of footwear that can be kept in School, is also a useful addition too.

Dr Chatterjee explains that there is a School coat available to purchase in the School shop. Otherwise, the top coat worn around School should be plain and dark in colour. It is also worthy of note that hoodies and tracksuit tops are not allowed as a top coat. School sports kit should not be mixed with uniform. Pupils may wear a full College tracksuit for after School travel if they are progressing on to a sporting activity at home. Please ask your child to see me and then I may add them to the list.

In addition, with dark nights upon us, we have asked pupils to remain under the archway at the front of Lower School at the end of the School day, until they are collected by their parent or guardian. Parents are asked respectfully, to curb speeds on the College grounds and not to park in such a way that blocks supervision of pupils moving in the dark carpark in the evenings.

On **Friday 29**<sup>th</sup> **November**, the Parents' Society are kindly organising a **Christmas Party for the KS2** pupils starting at the end of the School day until 7.30pm. The cost is £7.50 to cover entertainment and food. Payment is due as soon as possible please to Mrs Leonard, along with the returned **reply slip** below.

The **KS2 Christmas play** is on the afternoon of **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December**. It a superb event full of the magic that young children can provide at this special time in the academic calendar. Parents are warmly invited to attend. The performance starts at 3.30pm and there are light refreshments available from 3.15pm onwards. Children may go home with parents after the performance. Please let a member of staff know that you are taking your child before you go, for child protection and registration purposes.

As you will appreciate the last few weeks of the Michaelmas Term are incredibly busy. Mrs Allen is organising the **Monduli Bazzar** on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December starting at 4.40pm in the Big School Hall. Pupils from all areas of the school are busily preparing stalls. Mrs Allen wondered if there are there any parents who would like to help? She is also hopeful for donations of prizes – specifically tombola/raffle prizes. We have had some pretty amazing donations already. Two signed cricket bats by the England team (2016 and 2018 series against Pakistan and Australia) respectively. Mrs Allen promises more information next week! If you have any questions or would like to help in any way, please contact cathy.allen@ellesmere.com

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Following on from this event is the **Lower School Carol Service at 7pm** in the College Chapel. This is a beautiful and atmospheric event which families can enjoy together. Pupils may either go home as usual and return with parents for 7pm or parents are welcome to book pupils into supper and then collect pupils from 6.00pm at Lower School and then progress to the service. In order to help with organisation it would be appreciated if parents could fill in the form at the end of the letter to indicate their family intentions. Boarders arrangements will specifically be organised by Mr Owen and Mrs Done.

It is also worth noting that the end of term finishes and College transport departs at 4.30pm (one hour earlier) on the last day Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

Please do not hesitate to call Mrs Leonard for clarity should any of the above information require further explanation.

Have a lovely weekend!

Shoran Owen

Yours sincerely,

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR KS2 Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 5.30pm – 7.30pm

I give permission for
to stay for the Parents' Society KS2 Christmas Party on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November

(£7.50 per ticket with slip please)

I will be collecting my child from Lower School at 7.30pm (tick if appropriate)

My child will be collected at 7.30pm by

Signed

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## LOWER SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 7.00pm

Pupil's Name			
My son/daughter will:		(please select as appropriate)	
☐ Accompa	ny me to the Monduli Baz	zaar	
THEN			
☐ Stay for t	☐ Stay for tea and be picked up from Lower School from 6.00pm for the service.		
Return h	Return home at the normal time and return later with family for the service.		
Return home at normal time and will not be attending the service.			
Please indicate the number	er of people attending the	service (include pupils in this too)	
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Lower School Christmas Tree Lighting (KS2 and Lower School Choir)	4:30pm – Lower School Playground KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5, 6) Parents warmly welcome. Mince pies and mulled wine. Carols. Pupils may go home early with parents after signing out.	
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	KS2 Christmas Party	5.30pm – 7.30pm  Top floor of Lower School – party clothes brought to School in the morning.	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Monduli Christmas Bazaar	4.40pm – 5.15pm Big School Hall Parents and families welcome to join in the fun. Pupils will require a little spending money. Various options for pupils/parents moving on to Carol Service. Reply slip to follow.	
	Lower School Carol Service	7pm Chapel Followed by 'Mulled Wine and Mince Pies' in Big School.	

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Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Pantomime Trip –	Back in time for buses.
December	"Aladdin"	Pupils wear School Uniform.
	Theatre Severn,	Option for collection at Theatre Severn by
	Shrewsbury	arrangement.
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Christmas Play	Refreshments served from 3.15pm in the Arts Centre for a 3.30pm performance.  Pupils may go home with parents afterwards after
		signing out.
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	End of term	College transport leaves at 4.30pm.

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