



S Owen
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Monday 6th September 2021

Dear Parent,

I hope that all families have had a good Summer. A new term is ahead with new opportunities and experiences. We are looking forward to moving on in a safe but sensible manner.

It was good to see the new pupils and their families at the new pupils' tea on Sunday. Lower School is a wonderfully welcoming place and it is amazing how quickly the pupils get into their stride!

It is a good time to get uniform rules correct. Ties should be neatly tied, shoes clean and bags packed with all equipment, ready for a business-like start to learning. Please remember that it is still best to bring all essential items of stationary/equipment to school in a sensible school bag. It is best that such items are not shared. Long hair should be tied back in fastenings of the School colours and short hair is styled according to the printed College rules. It is also useful to bring in a personal water bottle and small hand san gel. Please name everything.

Each pupil has a lockable locker. It is secured with a padlock. Please could each pupil bring a small padlock and key for this purpose.

The rules on mobile phone use is strict in Lower School. The primary focus of the school day is certainly for learning, interacting with others and sharing experiences. Mobile telephones should be switched off and locked in personal lockers for the school day. Any essential calls to or from home can go via Mrs Leonard, the Lower School secretary. They are essentially just used for homeward travel.

On that note, please feel comfortable contacting Mrs Leonard on the telephone or by e-mail to ask any question: lowerschoolsecretary@ellesmere.com or 01691 626511.

Pupils have a personal tutor, these members of staff are the first point of contact for all issues. They are best placed to then direct any concern to the correct place. Personal tutors will be in contact with families over the first week or so. Please share which method of communication that you prefer with your child's personal tutor.

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A Woodard School

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All meals are provided at the College and pupils will need a mask for the dining hall and in busy areas.

Please let Mrs Leonard and personal tutors know of any dietary requirements for children.

For Year 7 pupils, dates for your diary are Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd October. We traditionally take Year 7 pupils to PGL, Baschurch, for a few days of outdoor adventure. The experience aims to provide a bonding experience for children. Some children will never have slept away from home before and for many there may be a few nerves. Rest assured, it's usually a super experience, the children are well looked after and more details will follow. There is a cost and the experience cannot be made compulsory, however it really is a fantastic start to Key Stage 3 experiences and we encourage everyone to go.

It is good to remember that the first few weeks rarely run perfectly. There will be things to clarify and sort through as we go along. We aim to get all children as happy and settled as quickly as possible. It is good to extend friendships and try new things. Personal tutors will have a focus on this.

We are looking forward to a good term.

Yours sincerely