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Dear Parent,

It's been a busy week. Assessments appear to have gone ahead without fuss and performance will be reviewed by pupils and subject teachers, over the next few days. The second Period Grade for the term will be published soon. A Period Grade gives a snapshot of work done over a short work period. Attainment grades will range from A to E and effort grades go from one to five. Five being highest grade for effort. A grade three for effort would be deemed satisfactory and still indicates that all is well, all work set has been done and a pupil is engaging well in lessons, as expected. This then sets the bar for effort assessment above this grade. We encourage pupils to extend their work in their study time to achieve the higher effort grades. This helps in the steps towards higher performance learning.

Pupils have enjoyed working in House teams for the House singing competition. The final event is next Wednesday and each of the three Houses are vying to take top spot!

Team photographs were on Wednesday, the Lower School photograph was taken on Thursday. Everyone looked smart and further details and proofs will be sent home as soon as we receive them. We have swelled a great deal in pupil numbers this year and more rows of pupils have been added. It is amazing how the photographers organise the whole affair as safely and quickly as they do!

Chess club is fiercely contested in KS3 and KS2 pupils are catching the chess bug too. Pupils do not have to know how to play. They come along to the club and pupils are matched in experience. No one has beaten Mr Atherton nor Mr Dilks yet, the challenge is still set!

Mrs Rogers also has a large number of children turning up for Craft Club and Communion Club is well attended. This adds breadth to the multifarious Sport and Music sessions there are in the week. We like busy children in Lower School.

We said well done to Phillipa Blackwell in Assembly on Monday. Phillipa kindly brought her Youth Series Cup and 1st place Fencing gold medal to show us. Well done to Phillipa!

Once again, a large number of children have represented College playing football, rugby and hockey. They played exceptionally well, there were impressive results but above all they played with a sporting spirit and were a credit to us!

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On Wednesday 1st December, Lower School will be going to Theatre Severn to watch the pantomime of Peter Pan. The performance should be finished by 4:30pm, therefore, if any parents wish to collect their child from the theatre please could you inform the Lower School Secretary so that arrangements can be made for collection from the foyer.

The PE Department are holding a Rudolph Run on Tuesday 7th December in aid of Nightingale House charity, sponsor forms have been sent home with the children for anyone wishing to contribute. Mr Taylor has been nominated as the Sprinting Santa, to lead the way!

Pupils will have a 'Christmas Jumper Day' on the last day of term. The purple College jumper is simply swapped for the Christmas jumper of the child's choice, (obviously all in good taste). Donations of £1 will be collected for the charity Shelter, providing support for homeless people.

There are fixtures at the weekend. I hope the weather stays good and that pupils enjoy the matches and play well!

Please make a note, **the end of term and coaches depart at 4.30pm** on Friday 10th December. Pupils will have had a lovely carol service and last assembly prior to departure. In the last week of term there are many items to take home, so it is wise to start this process at the beginning of the last week. Pupils would benefit from having an extra carrier bag in their school bag to help organise the safe transport home of these items.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely