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30 September 2022

Dear Parent,

The weeks are flying past. I inadvertently called this week, 'Week Three' in Assembly on Monday, much to the amusement of everyone. We have certainly packed a lot of action into these early weeks of the new term.

The Lower School Harvest Service was lovely on Wednesday. It was good to welcome parents to attend if they had a spare hour or so. Hopefully, we should begin to enjoy more of the Lower School parent and pupil community events as we go through the year.

The Reverend Gratton will be holding a Chapel Service on Saturday 8th October as per detail in the College White calendar. The service will celebrate Holy Communion with First Communions for some of the pupils. All families are warmly welcome to attend.

Mrs Pritt-Roberts, Deputy Head Academic for the whole College will be writing to parents soon regarding changes to the Parent Meeting systems. The College are hopeful that the changes will improve the communication pathways on such evenings. There will be options for parents to choose. Please note that **an on-line response will be required from all families** to indicate preferences. I mention this as a 'heads up' to the parents of the children in the younger years, to carefully read the email when it arrives, as there is a parent meeting for them in two weeks' time. Closely on the heels after half term, the Year 7 parents have a Parents' meeting too. I will communicate to families again regarding this once Mrs Pritt-Roberts has sent out her email. The first time through any new system may cause certain questions to arise. However, I am sure in the long run it will be a slicker affair. Thank you for your patience with this as we go through the first one.

We were host to Prestfelde School children from Year 7 on Tuesday. Mrs Curzon, KS3 Mathematics coordinator, organised a wonderful morning of Mathematical Challenge. Pupils from both schools were stretched to apply themselves mathematically. It was a really good event.

Assessment week is next week. These are simply snapshot assessments to check academic progress. Teachers use them for benchmarking purposes. They should be kept in perspective and not cause upset. The assessment will check what has been covered to date in class.

It is good to see many children enjoying shooting. This opportunity is open to both the experienced child and the child who has never shot before. It is very important that should your child book in for an after-school activity, that we know they are staying on after 5.30pm. They must let their personal tutor know. We will need to be sure of home travel arrangements.

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Tel: 01691 622321 Fax: 01691 623286

www.ellesmere.com

A Woodard School

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The busy sport fixture calendar is in full swing. Details for sport fixtures can be found via the Sport Portal on the link on the Ellesmere College website. It is important that pupils honour their place in the team if they are selected. Please give coaching staff lots of warning should a pupil have difficulty representing the College on a weekend. It is not possible to function with teams if the notice is given on the night before or on the actual morning of the fixture. Thank you for your understanding with this.

The under 11 pupils have an U11 Football tournament coming up on Sunday 9th October. More details will follow from the Games staff.

Expeditions are coming up too, Mrs Morgan will circulate more details in a separate email however, dates, tutor groups and locations are:

Tuesday 18th October

Ash - Techniquest and Ice Cream Farm
Oak – Enginuity, Ironbridge
Elm – Erddig, National Trust
Year 6 – Blue Planet Aquarium
Year 7 – In-School Activities
Year 8 – Black Country Museum

Wednesday 19th October

Ash – Lion Salt Works
Oak – Chirk Castle, National Trust
Elm – Delamere Forest
Year 6 – Blists Hill Victorian Village
Year 7 – PGL residential trip
Year 8 – Thinktank Museum Birmingham

Thursday 20th October

Ash and Oak – Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre and Stokesay Castle
Elm – Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge
Year 6 – Conwy RSPB Reserve
Year 7 – PGL residential trip
Year 8 – Bush craft day in school

Friday 21st October – normal school day except for Year 7 returning from PGL in the afternoon.

There is a non-uniform day on Friday 7th October. Pupils may wear their home clothes on that day for a £2 donation. The clothing chosen must still be suitable for College. Hair and jewellery rules still apply. The event is in support of 'Young Minds Mellow Yellow' charity so pupils may wish to add yellow into their theme for fun.

It is exeat weekend this weekend. I hope that all pupils have a rest and return refreshed and ready for the second half of term.

Yours sincerely,

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