



S Owen
Head of Lower School
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17th January 2020

Dear Parent,

It is a good time to concentrate on getting back to basics at the beginning of the New Year. The first term is always a time for settling and experiencing all of the new opportunities. This term I will be speaking to the pupils about getting back to doing things simply, but well. Focus will be placed on punctuality and personal organisation to ensure that the absolute best is achieved in each lesson. I would appreciate it if parents could support with checking and signing prep diaries at home too.

Coughs and colds are circulating. Please ensure that pupils have tissues. We will continue to press with hand sanitizing and hand washing notices. Please would families keep particularly infected children at home. This will really help the Lower School community stay healthy until the better weather arrives.

Assessment week is fast approaching in the week commencing 27th January. It would greatly assist the setting and completion of these assessments if dental and medical appointments could be arranged for other times.

Just for information and interest, the College Entrance Examination Morning is on Saturday 1st February. Further details regarding information for families seeking a place at the College, can be obtained from the Registrar in the Admissions Office on registrar@ellesmere.com

Year 8 Parents' Meeting is on Friday 7th February. This takes place in Big School. Prior to the Parents' Meeting there is a presentation by Middle School personnel regarding the transition from Year 8 to 9. Pupils and parents are invited. There will be the opportunity to meet the Middle School staff and hear information from Mrs Pritt Roberts (Deputy Head Academic) and Dr Chatterjee (Deputy Head Pastoral) regarding curriculum and Middle School life. Please would parents sign and return the slip at the end of this mail to indicate attendance at this event.

Hopefully, the weather will stay dry for the weekend. The Year 7 and 8 boys teams have football fixtures against Oldham Hulme School and the girls face Oswestry School in Netball; good luck to them and play well! There were good results last weekend.

We also hope that the swimmers perform well at the forthcoming galas over the next few weekends.

Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9AB
Tel: 01691 622321 Fax: 01691 623286
www.ellesmere.com

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Mr Williams, Director of Sport, reminds all pupils to have warm clothing for PE/Games lessons and training at this time of year. Full tracksuits are essential and hats and gloves certainly help on occasions too. It is also important that each child has a warm outdoor coat in School.

Steffi Bircher, College Swimming Coach, asked me to include a little information about the 'Learn to Swim' programme. Using highly qualified teachers and delivering quality lesson experiences, pupils are gently encouraged to improve their swimming competence. Class sizes are low, therefore, enabling instructors to have time to focus on the individual swimmers' needs, while ensuring that our pupils also have fun by learning and developing life skills. Children from 3 years of age may join and each child gets an individual progress report at the end of the swimming term. Lessons currently run on Monday, Wednesday & Saturday at the Ellesmere Primary School pool. Please contact Steffi on steffibircher@gmail.com for more information.

The Lower School cross-county event is on Thursday 30th January. Parents are once again welcome to join us for a coffee/tea or a hot chocolate and watch the races. Pupils may go home with parents following the event. More details will follow in the newsletter next week.

The Parents' Society Burns Night Supper and Ceildh is on Saturday 25th January. Many of the Lower School teachers are looking forward to the evening; taking the tartan for a spin!

The Parents' Society are hugely supportive of Lower School and we really appreciate their friendship and warmth. Over the years they have helped us to improve our play facilities and they financially supported the erection of the adventure play area at the back of the Lower School building. Once again, with their help we are looking to extend the facility over the spring. They have also organised wonderful parties for the children. Our sincere thanks are extended to them. It is a nice way to meet other parents from School and should anyone be able to spare time to swell their number, I am sure they would be really welcoming. They can be reached by email to: contactecps@gmail.com

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely

Please return to Lower School office

Name of pupil.....

We shall be attending the Year 8 to Year 9 presentation followed by the Parents' Meeting on Friday 7th February

We will unfortunately not be able to attend

Signed.....

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