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Dear Parent,

A Happy New Year to all Lower School families. I hope that the break was as relaxing and refreshing as possible. We have had a mixed profile of weather this week and therefore we ask that all pupils have a good outdoor coat with a hood if possible, for play and walking between classes. It is also sensible for the pupils to have a change of playground footwear, as we will try to get the children outside for fresh air whenever it is sensible to do so.

Hopefully during their time apart over the holiday, pupils will have got rid of the nasty bugs that were circulating before the Christmas break. It has been impressed upon them to be vigilant whilst handwashing and to have paper handkerchiefs available. This should minimize cross infection as much as possible.

Also on a medical note, Sister has asked that parents check their child's hair for head lice from time to time.

We have a busy term ahead. The sport focus has changed from rugby to football for Years 7 and 8 boys and the younger boys are now playing rugby. The girls have swapped their hockey boots and sticks for netballs and we wish all teams success this term. Cricket nets and sessions continue and shooting is as popular as ever.

The swimmers have continued to train hard over the break and it has been good to hear of their developments.

The tennis players continue to train and play tournaments through the winter period and the new Tennis Barn is getting to the interesting stage where we are looking forward to the structure being built now that foundations are nearing completion. It still looks on track for a spring opening.

Cross Country running takes place in PE lessons for all pupils this term. It may be wise to ensure that pupils have old trainers/spikes to run in. It would be useful to have some sort of bag to place the muddy footwear in afterwards. The House Cross Country competition is on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February and more details about the arrangements for that event will be circulated later.

On a Child Protection note, please may I ask that any parent popping into School, should report to Mrs Leonard in the Office and not go directly to classes with children. We have to account for all adults on the premises and this unfortunately includes first thing in the morning, going to the Upper Corridor, also at the end of the School day too. Many thanks for your understanding with this.

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On a final note, the forthcoming Burns Night Supper appears to be a sell out! We are really looking forward to it.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely

*Sharon Owen*

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