



S Owen
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9th September 2019

Dear Parents, Guardians and Pupils,

It was a pleasure to welcome both present and new pupils to School this morning. I hope that the summer holiday has re-charged batteries ready for a hard working term.

New pupils were invited to Lower School for New Pupils' Tea on Sunday. It was a lovely opportunity to meet new families and to have an informal meeting with tutors.

Ellesmere College Lower School is a vibrant and happy place to learn. It is also a very busy place to be. As a result, it is important that personal items of equipment and clothing are clearly named to ensure that the size of the lost property store remains manageable and items can be quickly returned to the owner. It is also sensible that only essential academic items are brought to School. Mrs Leonard, the Lower School Secretary, is very efficient and will call home if there should be the need; therefore mobile phones are not absolutely necessary during the School day and actually cause more problems than they solve at times. However, if they are essential for travel communications, they must be securely locked away in personal lockers during the School day.

Similarly, if Mrs Leonard cannot answer a specific query, she will book appointments/contact times for parents who may wish to speak to tutors. The morning is a busy period and therefore tutors cannot meet parents at drop off times. This will ensure that there is a crisp start to the School academic day.

We will be continuing to encourage pupils to eat healthily this term. Fruit will be available at break times and duty teachers will encourage sensible choice from the wide range of food that is available to the children at lunchtime. I would appreciate your support in this and discourage the consumption of sweets as snacks. Tuck shop is once per week for each tutor group and pupils should only require maximum £1. Tutors will inform pupils regarding the rota.

Sister Davies sends a brief reminder that pupils should not bring medication into School unless the Medical Centre are aware. The usual process is that the Sister team dispense any medication and as such can check that medication and dosage is taken at the correct time. Please feel comfortable to call Sister to discuss any prescription that may arise throughout the year. It is also important that in the event of bouts of sickness, pupils remain at home or in Sick Bay (for boarders) for 48hours after the last episode. As you can imagine, in such a close community infection may spread quickly. It is also good practice for pupils to have tissues in their bag for coughs and sneezes. We use hand sanitizing throughout the School too.

Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9AB

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www.ellesmere.com

A Woodard School

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I am keen to ensure that pupils look smart and wear the School uniform correctly. It would be greatly appreciated if you could continue to support from home with this. Hair should be cut short and in a sensible style for boys and of uniform natural colour. Girls should tie long hair back with an appropriate, school coloured hair band (black/white/purple). Shoes for all must be low heeled, polished if possible and securely fastened. Ballet pump type shoes are not really appropriate for girls, even though in fashion, as they often stretch and tread down at the back. Ties must have the normal tie knot and the length should approximately touch the belt. Pupils should not wear jewellery nor wear make-up.

Mrs Morgan, Assistant Head Pastoral, informs parents that in Years 7 and 8 some pupils will be taking part in sailing on a Wednesday afternoon. If your child has sailing this term please could they bring a towel, coat, trainers, change of socks and swimming costume/trunks with them to School. Your child will be informed when their sailing activity will be but to be aware, they take place on a Wednesday afternoon during Survive and Thrive time.

I truly believe that it is important to foster the close relationship between tutor, parent and pupil. Also through regular communication, I will hope to keep you as involved and informed in all that happens during a busy term.

One of the main themes that I will be placing focus on for all children in Lower School at the start of term, is kindness and respect for others. In the majority of situations, children get this right. Obviously, we will place firm emphasis on this to encourage all children to have this as a goal. I would indeed value your continued reinforcement of this from home too. Please remember that pupils should be 13 years to have a social media account and that all Year 8 are classed at the College as under 13 years until they reach Middle School years.

I would like you to feel assured that the Lower School tutor team will do everything possible to ensure that each child is happy during their School day. As a result, they will have fun in the learning environment and continue to flourish in their education.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely

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