



S Owen
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19th January 2018

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 good time for settling and experiencing all of the new opportunities. Focus will be placed on punctuality and personal organisation this half term to ensure that the absolute best is achieved in each lesson.

It is worth noting that assessment week is w/c 29th January. It would greatly assist the setting and completion of these assessments if dental/medical appointments could be arranged for other times.

Please could parents make Lower School aware should arrangements change in the evenings for pupils' home travel. It is also important to know when pupils are not staying on for shooting etc, if the routine is usual for them to do so. A quick e-mail or telephone to the Lower School Secretary on 01691626511 or lowerschoolsecretary@ellesmere.com will be perfect.

It was superb to hear that the Lower School pistol shooting team secured first place at the British Schools National Junior Championships on Wednesday. This is a fantastic achievement when over 200 schools compete. Francine Gilmore, Anna Maughan and James Caldwell made up the 3 strong team and in addition, James secured 1st place individually and is now the National British Schools Champion! Fantastic shooting and well done! Lower School shooting continues to be strong and Carmen Kilgannon, the Shooting Captain will be very busy in the forthcoming weeks, helping to organise the busy period of shooting competitions ahead.

It has been a pleasure to celebrate in assembly the achievements of the talented Lower School musicians of late. They are working extremely hard to be prepared for the Oswestry Music Festival which takes place straight after the half term break. Entries have to be in this week. Please contact Mrs Paul with any questions. Lucy Conway and Ellie Edwards have recently secured Grade 1 piano and Grade 3 piano respectively in the Associated Board Royal School of Music examinations. Congratulations are given to them!

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It may be wise to check the internet activity of your child at home. There will be Internet Safety sessions on PSHE day later in the term for Year 7 pupils. We acknowledge the increased communication benefit that internet and social websites can offer. However, in some cases they can cause more problems than they actually solve; especially for younger children. It is also a useful fact to know that social websites such as Facebook/Snapchat and others, have an age restriction of 13 years. People younger than that have to falsify their date of birth to have access to their own page. Mobile phones are placed in a locker during the School day.

The Lower School Open Morning is after half term. However, it is always good to be organised well in advance. As usual we recognise that our best assets are the pupils. May I ask for pupils to be available to come to School and help on the morning from 10-12am? There are activities in classrooms and guides required for visiting parents. There are a couple of sport fixtures on that day. Your support is really appreciated as always, and a slip at the end of this newsletter will help us plan the event.

The Parents' Society Burns Night Supper and Ceildh is Saturday 27th January. Many of the Lower School teachers are looking forward to the evening; spinning the tartan and sampling a 'wee dram' from the highlands perhaps! We look forward to seeing Lower School parents socially on the evening.

Have a good weekend when it arrives.

Yours sincerely,

Please return to Lower School office

Name of pupil.....

Will be able to attend Lower School Open Morning on Saturday 17th March 2018 10.00am-12.00pm.

Will unfortunately not be able to attend

Signed.....