



S Owen
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11th January 2019

Dear Parent,

It has been good to get back to school routines and it is always a pleasure to listen to the news and adventures that the pupils excitedly share, returning to a new term.

Pupils have quickly settled into work and there is an industrious feel in the school. The seniors in College are beginning to prepare for the external examination phase and the Lower School pupils appear to be picking up on the importance of sustained effort. This is good to see and is important as an assessment week will not be far away. Please would parents support tutors by checking pupil prep diaries to ensure that all work is kept up to date.

We have a busy term ahead of us. The Choir are preparing for the Young Voices concert and the new sports focus for pupils has instilled a fresh atmosphere in training and preparation for first fixtures. Year 7 and 8 boys now play football and Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 focus on rugby whilst the girls play netball.

Thursday 17th January, PC Crump will visit School to give an informal presentation to interested parents on E-Safety. We have planned the event to coincide with the end of the school day. Pupils may stay for supper whilst parents meet with PC Crump and the whole session is from 5.35pm, aiming to finish at 6.20pm. Please would interested parents complete the reply slip below to help with the organisation of refreshments and supper numbers for the children.

It was a pleasure to say well done to a good number of pupils in Years 7 and 8 who have improved their reading age scores since the last assessment phase. It is important that pupils read for pleasure for at least a short time each day and thanks are extended to parents in their support with this.

Sister Eiry has asked me to remind parents to keep unwell children at home. We have a number of pupils in College who are particularly susceptible to serious harm should they come into contact with chicken pox or chest infections etc. Sister Eiry asks that children with stomach upsets or sickness are kept at home for 48 hours after the last symptoms have been experienced. We will continue to encourage the use of hand sanitizer and handkerchiefs in school over the winter period.

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Mr Rylands was bursting with news about Lower School shooting when we spoke earlier in the week. He was proud to share that participation has risen again with 60% of Lower School pupils regularly shooting at some time in the week. The high skill standard and increased interest allows development of shooters capable of performing to a very high standard in competition. We really do encourage shooting for pupils in Lower School as it sets a wonderful base for the success achieved at national level in the senior part of school. Please contact Mr Rylands about any aspect of shooting in school. We wish Francine Gilmore well in her national shooting competition next week.

The swimmers have been extremely busy over the holiday. They have a busy competitive phase ahead and we wish them well too.

A big well done to Freddie Heasmer-Jones and Noah Fisher. Both boys have recently achieved excellent results in their grade 3 music examination. Very well done indeed!

The Games Department request that pupils have full tracksuits and warm kit over the next few weeks. Some pupils were cold this week. Pupils may travel home in full tracksuits if they have a sport club immediately after school. Permission should be requested in the first instance from tutors please. Otherwise full school uniform is the order of the day.

The pupils looked extremely smart on their return on Monday. This is lovely to see. The School Shop has a warm and waterproof coat available. It is important that pupils have a coat in school and gloves and hats are sensible during the colder weather for lunchtimes and break times.

Over the holidays, I am proud to share that some of the Lower School children took part in work for charities. Megan and Dylan Pritchard went carol singing to raise money for the homeless. With the money that they raised they bought socks and donated them at a local shelter for the homeless. This was lovely to hear.

Hopefully, all Year 8 pupils received their end of Michaelmas Term School report over the Christmas break. Tutors have been working with pupils to set their new targets for this term. Year 8 have a Parents' evening later this term and therefore Years 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 have an end of term report as their Parents' Evening was held last term. Please remember to feel comfortable contacting your child's tutor or the Lower School Secretary, Mrs Leonard, to clarify any concerns as we work through this new term.

We hope that the sports teams play well this weekend. Please feel welcome to go along to support!

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely



(Please return to Lower School office)

I would like to attend the E-Safety meeting with PC Crump on Thursday 17th January at 5.35pm.

I would like _____ (child's name) to stay for supper.

Parent's name _____

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