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14<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Parent,

All too quickly the half term holiday is almost upon us. This will be the last newsletter for this half term. It certainly has been a very busy time. Next week, just as a reminder, we have whole School expeditions. The Year 7 group are braving the elements at an outdoor pursuits centre for three days. The focus for this trip is to further extend friendship groups and do lots of fun and challenging activities in teams. We have placed great emphasis on the value of all personality types throughout the term and certainly it will be important to see that everyone has a valuable part in a well-functioning team.

Years 3 and 4 are experiencing Liverpool on Wednesday (own clothes), School based workshops on Thursday (own clothes) and Cadbury World on Friday (own clothes).

Year 5 Salt Works on Wednesday (own clothes), School based workshops on Thursday, (own clothes) and Groundwork in Wrexham on Friday (old own clothes and coat).

Year 6 will travel to Quarry Bank Mill on Wednesday (own clothes and coat), Thursday will be workshops in school (own clothes) and Geography field trip on Friday (own clothes and coat). Any visit outside of school will need wet weather clothing too.

Year 8 will wear their own clothes for the three days. Wednesday they will travel to Jodrell Bank, Thursday is an activity day in School and Friday they are taking part in an art focus day at the Black Country Museum.

I have reinforced to all children the need to be well behaved and good ambassadors for the School whilst they are on all activities. I would appreciate your support with this message too.

There will be a Year 2 and Year 3 Discovery Day in School on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November. This is the first Friday when we return from half term. Should parents know of any family who may wish to take up this opportunity for their child, please contact the Admission Department in the College. Alternatively drop Mrs Leonard a line and she will forward the contact details to book a place.

LAMDA examinations have been taking place this week. We hope that pupils find success. Should your child wish to have LAMDA sessions (London Art, Music and Drama Award) please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Leonard, the Lower School Secretary. Similarly, the Music Department coordinate lessons for musical instruments and voice. Taster lessons can be arranged too. Please contact Mrs Paul on [Rebecca.paul@ellesmere.com](mailto:Rebecca.paul@ellesmere.com) to arrange these sessions.

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Mrs Paton was thrilled with the standard of entries for the History Department 'Castles Competition'. The winning entries were constructed by Dominic Harding and James Kelly. Well done boys!

Amy Evans is congratulated on her exceptional Tap and Ballet dancing results in her recent examinations.

The pupils have enjoyed the Book Fair this week. This experience adds to the encouragement of reading each day.

It was super to hear that the Under 11 Football team had produced gritty performances last week and were successful in their matches. The Under 11 team play in the Ellesmere Under 11 Tournament this Sunday too. Good luck to them!

The Under 13 Hockey team beat Bedstone College at the weekend and continue with their superb season run. Many of our young players are involved in County training too. Well done girls!

The boys enjoyed success at Under 13B level against King Henry V111 School, Coventry. The Under 13 A team found the competition very tough and will be looking forward to faring better in the return fixture. It is easy to see why it is a pleasing experience to be working with such motivated young people!

We will be sending leaflets home for parents to read about our Christmas charity event -Operation Christmas Child. Each year we distribute decorated shoeboxes of gifts to children who are less fortunate. The leaflet is very detailed and I will explain the basis of the event to the children in Assembly on Monday.

Have a good half term break when it arrives and just as a reminder, whilst thinking about half term haircuts for boys; please remember that the top of the style must blend in with the sides and not be extreme in length or sticking up too high. The cut should be graded in to the hair cut all the way down and the hair shouldn't touch the shirt collar. With our focus on the correct way to wear hair for the uniform, it's easy to see why one of our old boy's was Andrew Collinge.

Yours sincerely,



|           | Y 3 AND 4   | Y5  | Y6  | Y8  |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|
| WED 19th  | LIVERPOOL MUSEUM AND UNDER WATER STREET Own Clothes/ trainers | SALT WORKS Own clothes/trainers                               | QUARRY BANK MILL Own clothes/trainers/coat essential                      | JODRELL BANK Own clothes/trainers                             |
| THUR 20th | AUTHOR VISIT AND FLAMENCO DANCE WORKSHOP Own clothes/trainers | AUTHOR VISIT AND FLAMENCO DANCE WORKSHOP Own clothes/trainers | AUTHOR VISIT AND FLAMENCO DANCE WORKSHOP Own clothes/trainers             | AUTHOR VISIT AND FLAMENCO DANCE WORKSHOP Own clothes/trainers |
| FRI 21st  | CADBURY WORLD Own clothes/trainers                            | GROUDWORK WREXHAM Own old clothes/trainers/coat essential     | SHREWSBURY GEOG FIELD TRIP AND MUSEUM Own clothes/trainers/coat essential | BLACK COUNTRY MUSEUM Own clothes/trainers/coat essential      |

In order to ensure the smooth running of these expeditions pupils are expected to be in School at the normal time and will be ready to travel home at the usual time. Any pocket money brought with them is the pupil's responsibility. We do not want hand held games brought in and whilst mobile phones may be useful any misuse will result in the phone being confiscated.

Please keep an eye on the weather, many of our activities will be outside for a period of time and therefore wet weather clothing may be advisable. Sensible footwear is requested at all times. A small day bag/ backpack will be useful to carry their packed lunch in, which will be provided by School.

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