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Dear Parent,

It has been a good few days and a lot of activity has been going on this week.

It has been Assessment week and pupils have generally settled into these snapshot tests with a minimum amount of fuss. The focus in Assembly this week was to strive to do ones best, but to learn from any mistakes made, and turn any negative into a positive. Pupils will look through their papers next week and the results will be the basis for Period Grades.

The Lower School Inter House General Knowledge Quiz took place on Wednesday. It was a true spectacle, enjoyed by a large number of the Lower School children. Three 'top teams' responded to quick fire questions covering a wide spectrum of academic areas. Phillips House were very quick thinking and rapid on the buzzer to capture 1st place. Well done to the successful trio representing Phillips House: Robyn Welti, William Selby and Alexander Norris. The quiz was made complete with the shimmering silver waistcoat and bow tie worn by Mr Crawford, the esteemed Quiz Master!

BBC Radio has interviewed Katie Hale from Year 6 this morning to talk about her swimming. I am not sure if the interview was live or will be aired on a later occasion. We wish her well and look forward to listening with interest.

Today is non-uniform day, pupils usually enjoy this occasion each term and also help others by raising money for those less fortunate. The £2 donation will go to the The Monduli Green Project, which works with local communities and schools in Tanzania. Looking ahead to next term, shorts may be worn on non-uniform day, these items should be at knee length. Girls are not allowed cropped tops or spaghetti strapped tops. It is important that they carefully select their clothing to be sensible with the ability to function as normal on a busy day in School; the rules on make-up and jewellery still apply.

From time to time Mr Williams reminds pupils that swimming caps should be worn and are necessary during swimming lessons. Large and voluminous beach style swimwear is not allowed. It is also useful to note that School can provide large expensive items of summer sport equipment such as tennis rackets and cricket bats. Pupils usually choose to buy their own equipment when a particular specialism develops. In the formative years of learning skills, in a sport, it is important that pupils try a range of weights and sizes of bats and rackets. Therefore, please do not feel pressurised to purchase these items as coaching staff can advise before investing in such items.

House Matches are coming up, and we will be playing Rugby, Football and Netball. The pupils really enjoy these contests, and it is good to see the large number of Lower School children who are active in many areas.

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We are aware that some pupils are generally becoming quite tired as we work towards the end of term. I have explained the need for a decent amount of sleep and the importance of eating well, in order that pupils perform to their best in School. Thank you for your support with this as we move into the last few weeks of a very busy term. There are a few nasty bugs circulating around Lower School, therefore we have insisted on good handwashing and the use of sanitising gels as pupils go about their daily routine. After a bout of sickness, Sister requests that 48 hours is given before returning a pupil to School.

I hope that you have a good weekend,

Yours sincerely,