



S Owen  
Head of Lower School  
01691 626511  
email: sharon.owen@ellesmere.com

20<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parent,

It is a good time to concentrate on getting back to basics at the beginning of the New Year. The Michaelmas term is always a time for settling and experiencing all of the new opportunities. This term I will be speaking to pupils about getting back to doing things simply, but well. Focus will be placed on punctuality and personal organisation to ensure that the absolute best is achieved in each lesson. I would appreciate it if parents could support with checking and signing prep diaries at home too. Please feel comfortable contacting your child's tutor with any concern.

Mr Dilks, Assistant Head of Academics for Lower School and Mrs Phillips, Academic KS2 coordinator have asked that pupils use the White Calendar and note the assessment weeks for this term. It would greatly assist the setting and completion of these assessments if dental/medical appointments could be arranged for other times.

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 socially naive children. It is also a useful fact to know that social websites such as Facebook 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. To help place focus on academic endeavor, pupils may not carry mobile telephones around with them in Lower School. Each pupil has a lockable space and mobile telephones must be locked away during morning registration. Mobile telephones and valuable possessions may then be collected ready for travel at the end of the day. This system has fundamental foundations based upon trust.

Thank you to parents for encouraging pupils to bring a coat into School. This has made playtime a more productive affair and pupils are dry when moving between the School buildings and lessons.

Please would the parents of Year 8 girls' note that HPV reply slips should be returned to School by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January. The vaccinations will take place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February. Consent forms have been sent home via InTouch mailing.

Well done to Robyn Welti and Imogen Wright-Mountford in Year 8. Both girls have secured inclusion in the County Hockey squads. Robyn has been selected for Shropshire County Cricket too. Well done girls!

Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9AB

Tel: 01691 622321 Fax: 01691 623286

[www.ellesmere.com](http://www.ellesmere.com)

*A Woodard School*

*Registered Charity number 1103049*

*Ellesmere College Ltd is a company, registered in England, no: 5066406*



I hope that the milder weather will stay with us for the weekend. The Year 7 and 8 boys' teams have football fixtures against Wolverhampton Grammar School. The Year 7 and 8 girls face Stafford Grammar School; good luck to them and play well!

Next Tuesday there is a CRE8 production in the Arts Centre 7pm-9pm. Details are noted in the Ellesmere 'What's On' Brochure. This is an informal celebration of creativity at Ellesmere. The event is organised by Senior School pupils and involves performances from pupils and staff from the whole School. It is usually a fun evening and tickets may be reserved at the Ellesmere College Box Office.

It is Exeat weekend next weekend. It is worth noting that there are no fixtures.

The Parents' Society Burns Night Supper and Ceildh is Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January. Many of the Lower School teachers are looking forward to the evening; donning the tartan and sampling a 'wee dram' from the highlands perhaps!

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,