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19th May 2017

Dear Parent,

Today we had a non-uniform day, which always causes great excitement in Lower School. This term the £2 donations will go to support the Shropshire Age UK charity.

ESB examinations start next week. Mr. Dilks and the English department would encourage parents to hear the presentations at home over the weekend.

There have been a large number of prospective pupils visiting over the past few weeks. The current pupils have looked after the visitors very well to ensure they get a happy experience on their visit day. It has been a credit to them and thank you!

Our thanks are extended to Mrs. Astbury who ran the Book Fair this week. Pupils have really enjoyed perusing the new editions.

The Lower School swimmers had success at the Swansea open meeting last weekend. Lola Oke and Alexander Rosser-Barnett performed with excellence in their respective events and the Club secured the Top Club Award beating 35 others. The swimmers travel to Cardiff next weekend.

Cricket matches went well last week. Both the boys and girls teams found success and really enjoyed close competition. This has motivated the pupils to improve further still and the nets have been busy at lunchtimes this week.

Miss Marshall, Head of Games, has arranged Girls' Cricket Master Classes and professional coaching for Thursdays 8th, 15th and 22nd June from 4pm-7pm. Girls should contact Miss Marshall if they would like to attend. This event is open to girls from Years 6, 7 and 8.

Shooting is as popular as ever in Lower School. Mr. Quinlan and Mr. Rylands are organizing some exciting House shooting events over the next few weeks. The House Cup competition is really gaining momentum in the march to the end of the School year.

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Mrs. Done, Housemistress of St Aidan's Middle School House, has invited the Year 8 girls to a coffee and cake morning next week. This will be one of the opportunities for the girls to absorb the atmosphere of Middle School life. Mrs. Done would also like to welcome parents and girls to an informal afternoon tea on Friday 9th June, after half term. This will be the end of the School day at collection time and aims to give parents the chance to meet the Middle School pastoral staff and see St Aidan's, the girls' base for next year. The boys will visit the Middle School Houses after half term.

The College Art Exhibition runs from Wednesday 31st May until Sunday 4th June during the half term holiday. Details of exact times are in the white calendar. It is an inspiring event with a large number of excellent contributors. It is a pleasant way to spend an hour or so looking at the exhibits. Many pieces are also available to purchase and invitations are extended to Ellesmere families and their friends.

As this is the last Parent Mail before half term it is useful to look ahead at the events that are taking place when we return.

Lower School Sports Day is on Thursday 29th June at 2pm and pupils are busily preparing for the athletic events. This is usually an enjoyable afternoon and parents are warmly welcome. We promise no Parent races! This follows the KS2 Swimming Gala, which starts at 10am and parents are welcome along to enjoy this event too!

Mrs. Allen has arranged the Monduli/Hope House Sponsored Walk for the afternoon of 12th June. Sponsorship cards are available from form teachers. Years 3 to 6 have the choice between the short or long walk and KS3 pupils may also join the walk if they wish.

The proceeds will go to the Hope House Charity for terminally ill children and water projects in Monduli Village, North Tanzania.

It appears early, but there is also a Christmas card design competition. The winning designs will be reproduced in time for sale at the Bazaar in December.

Please contact Mrs. Allen with any questions at cathy.allen@ellesmere.com

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

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