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Dear Parent/Carer

GCSE Geography Field Trip to South Wales – Friday 11th July – Sunday 13th July 2014

Now that summer is with us it will not be long until we embark on our trip to Wales to collect data for the controlled assessment. As stated in the original letter, the controlled assessment is set by the exam board and is worth 25% of the final GCSE grade.

Students will need to be at school by **7.00am on Friday 11th July** and we aim to return by **4.00pm on Sunday 13th July** subject to traffic conditions.

Can I remind you that the final balance for the trip is due by 27th June 2014. Please make sure that payments are received by this date. You should also by now have returned the **medical form**. Please keep me updated if there any amendments to the information submitted on this form.

As stated in the initial letter, students will be staying in fully catered accommodation at Swansea University so all meals are included in the cost of the trip. The field work will be carried out along the course of the River Taff from its source in the Brecon Beacons National Park to the mouth in Cardiff.

A full **kit list** is being handed out with this letter. All items are highly recommended or essential but I must draw your attention to an important safety consideration. As students will be walking on uneven ground and getting into the river (where it is safe to do so) it is important that in order to be able to go into the river at least two different kinds of footwear are packed for the trip

- a pair of sturdy walking boots or trainers is essential (no ballet-style pumps or canvas trainers)
- a pair of old trainers or wet-shoes for getting into the river (students cannot enter the river barefoot or in flip-flops)

Also please bear in mind that the weather can be very changeable in the Welsh hills. It is very important that students are prepared for all conditions, hot, cold, wet, dry and everything in between!

I would remind you that expensive items (phones, ipods, cameras) are not insured and so the recommendation is that they are left at home unless covered by your own insurance.

Students should make payments directly to the finance office. Medical forms can be handed in to the finance office or directly to myself. Cheques should be made payable to Sackville School. Please write the student's full name, tutor group and 'GCSE geography field trip' on the back of the cheque to avoid confusion. Alternatively you can pay via the online payment system.

Yours sincerely

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