



Headteacher: **Mr J Grant**

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June 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

GCSE Geography Field Trip to South Wales – Saturday 11th July to Monday 13th July 2015

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 **8.00am on Saturday 11th July** and we aim to return by **4.00pm on Monday 13th July** subject to traffic conditions.

Can I remind you that the final balance for the trip is due by 12th June 2015? 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 are any amendments to the information submitted on this form. If we have not received a medical form yet then one will have been handed out with this letter.

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 fieldwork 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. You can pay via the online payment system. Alternatively, cheques should be made payable to Sackville School. Please write the student's full name, form group and 'GCSE geography field trip' on the back of the cheque to avoid confusion.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Robinson
Curriculum Leader of Geography

nrobinson23@wsgfl.org.uk





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Sackville Geography Department

GCSE Fieldwork Kit List (essentials and recommendations) *:

Waterproof coat - essential

Waterproof trousers - recommended

Warm trousers - not jeans as these absorb water and become heavy and difficult to dry in wet conditions - essential

Warm coat or fleece - essential

Warm base layer/t-shirts - essential

Walking boots/sturdy footwear - these should have plenty of tread on the sole and should be fairly waterproof - essential

Walking socks - one pair - essential, two pairs - recommended

Wet shoes or Wellington boots - for wading in rivers - recommended

Warm gloves and hat - essential

Sunhat, sunglasses, sun cream - essential, **insect repellent** - recommended

A small day rucksack (25 litres) - essential

Fieldwork notebook - recommended

Stationery and calculator - essential

Inexpensive camera - recommended - remember we will be doing river work. We advise strongly against bringing expensive cameras, including expensive camera 'phones.

Individual medication with clear instructions - make sure staff are aware of any medical issues - essential

Watch - recommended

Packed lunch for the first day + snacks - essential

Small amount of money for snacks - optional

Hand sanitiser - highly recommended

Old clothes for fieldwork - essential



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Casual clothes for the evenings - recommended!

Toiletries - essential

Towel - essential

Entertainment (cards, books, footballs, Frisbees etc.) - recommended

Enthusiasm (compulsory!)

*** If you have any questions about the list please contact Mr Robinson
nrobinson23@wsgfl.org.uk.**

