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February 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

AS Geography Field Course 2015 – an update

This is a reminder that the final instalment of payment for the trip is due on the 27th February. At the time of writing the balance you have remaining is _____.

I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight some finer details of the fieldtrip.

The group will be staying at the following centres during the field course:

Claremont House St Brides Hill Saundersfoot Pembrokeshire SA69 9NP Tel: 01834 813231 Friday 20 th – Saturday 21 st March	Plas Dolau Lovesgrove Aberystwyth Dyfed SY23 3HP Tel: 01970 617834 Sunday 22 nd – Tuesday 24 th March
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Students need to assemble at school on **Friday 20th March at 7.30am**. They should bring a packed lunch for the day and be dressed for fieldwork. The group will travel in two minibuses to Pembrokeshire, stopping en route to carry out fieldwork. We aim to return back to school by 4.30pm on Wednesday 25th March and we will instruct students to update you during the journey.

It is essential that students come properly prepared for fieldwork, which is likely to take place in adverse weather conditions. I have therefore **attached a kit list**. I have also attached a **parental consent form which I ask you to complete and return with the final balance by 27th February 2015**.

The fieldwork programme will include, on the **physical** side, a river study, a sand dune study and a coastal study. On the **human** side, it will include a visit to the Centre for Alternative Technology and two urban studies. However, all fieldwork will also have a **focus on fieldwork skills and techniques** which is essential for the delivery of unit 2 of the AS syllabus 'Geographical Skills'.

I would emphasise that this represents a full programme of study and students will be expected to work and stay focused whilst carrying out fieldwork in the day *and* during classroom sessions in the evening.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Robinson
Curriculum Leader of Geography



Sackville Geography Department



Recommended AS Fieldwork Kit List (please ask students to check with members of staff if there are any concerns or questions):

Waterproof coat

Waterproof trousers

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

Warm coat or fleece

Warm base layer

Walking boots – these should have plenty of tread on the sole and should be fairly waterproof.

Walking socks – at least two pairs

Old trainers/sandals - for wading in rivers (wellington boots can be taken but are often overtopped and are uncomfortable if worn for long periods of time).

Gloves and hat

Sun hat, sun glasses and sun cream

A small day rucksack (25 litres)

Fieldwork notebook

Clipboard

Folder to keep work in

Stationery and calculator

Laptop

Camera – plus leads to connect to a computer

Watch

MP3 player or similar - for the journeys

While the electronic items above are useful for the trip please note that they are not covered by the school's insurance. They may be covered by your household insurance but please do check. If items are particularly expensive or precious they should be left at home.

Packed lunch for the first day

Snacks for the week

Small amount of money (£10) - while the trip is fully catered there are occasional opportunities to buy drinks/ice creams (!) on some days

Old clothes for fieldwork

Casual clothes for the evenings

Toiletries

Individual medication

Towel

Enthusiasm!