



May 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 8 Activity Days – 17 and 18 July 2019

The last week of term, commencing 15 July 2019, includes two activity days and we have planned the following exciting activities:

Wednesday 17 July – Trip to Caldecotte Lake, Milton Keynes

The Caldecotte Xperience offers a variety of exciting adventure activities and learning experiences for young people, including: dragon boat, high ropes, abseiling, climbing, caving, zorbing, bushcraft, archery, stand up paddle surfing, sailing, orienteering, fencing, team dynamics and canoeing.

Thursday 18 July – Sports Activities

A variety of sporting activities will take place in the morning, and I have booked 'It's a Knockout' to take place in the afternoon, when students will experience team races and the strong possibility of getting wet with water and foam!

Please note that each student will be allocated three activities from the list above. Each activity will be organised and supervised by the staff at the centre, all of whom are very experienced and qualified in the relevant activity. Students do not need to be able to swim to take part in the water-based activities, however if your child cannot swim, please make a note of this on the reply slip.

More information can be found on the Caldecotte Xperience website: <http://www.caldecotteexperience.org.uk>

We will be travelling to Milton Keynes by coach, leaving school promptly at 8.20am (registration will be at 8.00am) and returning at approximately 4.25pm. Students will need to wear comfortable, loose clothing and trainers; jeans are not suitable. Please note that students may get wet so we advise that they bring a change of clothing. There will be no opportunities to purchase food/drink so a packed lunch and a water bottle will be needed.

The total cost for these activities will be £41.00. This includes travel, insurance, activities at Caldecotte Lake and It's a Knockout. Payment may be made by WisePay (our preferred option), or by cheque (made payable to Ashlyns School). Please complete and return the permission slip to the Finance Box outside the staff room by Monday 13 May at the latest. We appreciate that this is an expensive trip and you may pay in two instalments if preferred.

A full risk assessment has been undertaken for the above activities and appropriate control measures are in place.

I appreciate that the cost of these activity days creates an additional expense for families, particularly to those parents/carers with multiple children at the school, however I have arranged these activities because they offer fantastic experiences for the students which will:

- Increase confidence
- Identify leadership potential
- Allow students to interact with the natural environment
- Teach outdoor survival skills
- Accelerate new friendships

Please note that the school's policy is that trips and other activities outside the normal teaching programme should be self-funding. Contributions are voluntary but if these are insufficient the trip/activities may have to be cancelled. In cases of genuine hardship, please contact Mrs Wilson in the Finance Office in confidence as soon as possible and by Wednesday 8 May at the latest.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Hart
Head of Year 8

Year 8 Activity Days – 17 and 18 July 2019

Please return this reply slip in an envelope labelled 'Year 8 Activity Days' and post in the Finance Box outside the staffroom by Monday 13 May.

Student Name: _____ Form: _____

I give permission for my son/daughter to take part in the Year 8 activities listed.

I have paid via WisePay (our preferred option) Ref Number: _____

I enclose a cheque for £41.00 payable to Ashlyns School

I enclose a non-refundable deposit of £20.00, payable by Monday 13 May. I will pay the balance (non-refundable) of £21.00 by Tuesday 4 June.

I have paid £20.00 by WisePay (our preferred option). Ref Number _____

I enclose a cheque for £20.00 made payable to Ashlyns School

Additional notes (swimming ability): _____

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____