



HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL
An Academy Trust

DW/ajp

11 December 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians

Year 12 Geography Field Course to the Lake District National Park 2015

This letter is to give you further details of the above course. The cost of the trip is £310 per head and contributes towards the resources, transport and accommodation. A deposit of £50 has already been paid to the Field centre, so this leaves a further £260 which should be paid by Friday 6 February 2015. Please make cheques payable to HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL or alternatively you may pay via WISEPAY. Please also ensure the previously issued Parental Consent Form is returned to Reception by Friday, 19 December 2014 as this information is needed so we can declare the trip to Herts Education Authority.

We will be leaving the School at 6.00am on Friday, 6 March and travelling by minibuses with Mr Streets, Miss Whale, Mr McPherson, Mr Brown, Mrs Reynolds and Mrs Black also attending. Three stops will be made on the way, where food and drink may be purchased, but a packed lunch would be useful.

We will be staying at: The Blencathra Field Centre, Threlkeld, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4SG. Telephone 017687 79601

I would be grateful if the above telephone number is used only in the case of an emergency. We will also be posting any travel details on our Geography Twitter account (@HBSGeog). The Centre, run by the Field Studies Council, will provide accommodation, breakfast, packed lunch and evening meals, as well as the use of facilities for working in the evenings.

Normal fieldwork equipment is needed:

Field note book (provided by me), clipboard and writing materials including colouring pencils. A camera and calculator would also be very useful. We will provide all the necessary maps during the course, but for those wishing to purchase their own Ordnance Survey maps of the area, I will be happy to provide details nearer the time. A resource pack and full details of each days' activities will be given to students on their arrival.

Personal equipment should include walking boots (not trainers!), thick socks, waterproof top with hood, waterproof over-trousers, warm hat, pair of gloves, old jumpers/sweatshirts, fleece (if possible), washing gear, towel and soft shoes for inside the Centre. A small rucksack for use in the field is recommended. A leaflet on hiring a pair of walking boots from Countrywise in Stevenage old town for a refundable £10 deposit is available from me on request in the New Year.

Head Teacher: Mr M Brown



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We will undertake preparation lessons prior to the trip to ensure students know where we are going and what we will be doing. Planned activities include the study of glacial features in the Easedale valley and glacial processes and erosion in the Great Langdale valley (for AS module Unit 1) and practising some geographical skills by looking at the changing channel characteristics along the Gendeterra Beck (for AS module Unit 2). We will also be studying the Keswick floods and subsequent management (for AS module Unit 1). Field Studies centre staff will lead the Keswick floods activity on the Saturday and the Glendeterra Beck on the Sunday.

As the purpose is to cover many aspects of the AS modules, there will be a considerable amount of follow-up work to be carried out each evening. Students will be asked to submit a written field report for each of the 5 case studies that will be assessed. It will provide them with a permanent record of the work undertaken and will be a valuable revision aid for the summer exams.

Of course, there will be some free time each day, but your son/daughter will not be allowed to buy or consume alcohol or cigarettes. It is school policy to point out that any incidents regarding students in possession of alcohol or drugs during the trip may result in the student being sent home or collected. We hope that nothing is done to damage the excellent reputation the Geography Department has established with Centre staff and local residents over nearly thirty years of visits to the area.

On the Tuesday, 11 March, our estimated time of arrival in Hitchin is between 7pm – 9 pm, but students will be able to telephone you on the return journey to give more precise timings.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at School if you require further information. I hope your son/daughter is looking forward to the trip as much as his teachers.

Yours sincerely



P. Dawson

Head of Geography & Year 13

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Return to the School Office Letterbox Marked 'Lakes 2015' (by 06 February 2015 please)

Pupil's name: _____ Tutor Group: _____

I have read Mr Dawson's letter dated 10 December 2014.

I enclose the balance of £260 for the Geography field course to Lake District.

I have sent in the Parental Consent Form by Friday 19 December & will inform Mr Dawson in writing of any relevant changes before the trip.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Guardian) Date: _____