



St Benedict's Catholic High School

Kinwarton Road, Alcester, Warwickshire. B49 6PX

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- ✉ Headteacher: head@st-benedicts.org
- ✉ Main Office: admin@st-benedicts.org
- ✉ Sixth Form: sixthform@st-benedicts.org

Headteacher: Mr N Gibson

Web: www.st-benedicts.org

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs S Boote Powell
Mrs M Parton
Mr S Smallman



October 2017

Dear Parents/Guardian,

I am writing to make you aware of an opportunity for your child to attend an Outdoor Activities/Personal and Social Education Course at Warwickshire's Outdoor Education Centre, Marle Hall, North Wales, for Year 9 pupils from Monday 4 June – Friday 8 June 2018. The course will include mountain-based adventure and problem-solving activities, which will be taught by experienced tutors from Marle Hall and accompanied by St Benedict's staff. The opportunity to live and work in an environment different to home and school is seen to promote the development of many personal qualities in young people and it is recognized to be of great value in developing our pupils character and resilience.

A copy of a typical programme is attached to this letter.

The total cost will be £370.00.

This consists of:

£280.00 (all inclusive package) for board and lodging at the centre and hire of all equipment, boots, anoraks, rucksacks etc.

Tuition, hire mini buses, travel costs, insurance and other incidental expenses.

Assistance with payment for board and lodging is available for children whose parent(s) is/are in receipt of income support or family credit and can be arranged by contacting the school.

It is not possible to cover these costs from school funds so we ask parents of children attending to volunteer this amount in order that the course can take place. Inability of a parent to make this payment should not preclude their child/children from attending, if the course proceeds.

We invite you to secure a place for your child, on the enclosed reply form. Please return the completed form by **Monday 16 October 2017**, together with a non-returnable deposit of £150.00 which will go towards the cost of board and accommodation, addressed to Mrs. K Whitehouse in the Finance Office (Room 10). We would prefer if you could make your payment for this trip through the **Parentpay** system. Where circumstances do not allow you to use this system we are still happy to accept cash and cheques.

We urge you to return the reply slips as promptly as possible, as places are limited to 75 students and are allocated on a first come, first served basis.

The deposit will be returned if it proves impossible to raise the required number of pupils or obtain funds to cover the cost of travel, accommodation and incidental expenses. **Four further payments of £55 to be paid on the following dates, during November, January, February with a final payment in March 2018 (30.11.17, 26.01.18, 28.02.18, 29.03.18).** Payment can be made in full at any time and the above dates are for guideline purposes only. If necessary a more flexible payment arrangement can be made if it suits. The school may be able to help financially if this is likely to prohibit your son/daughter attending the course.



Please contact Mrs Whitehouse (01789 761936) in confidence to discuss this or any other financial arrangements.

If your child withdraws from his/her place monies paid will only be returned in the case of certified sickness or if the place is taken by another pupil. The final balance must be paid in full no later than Thursday 29 March Easter holidays 2018.

I look forward to hearing from you and providing further details of the course if you require them.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Redfern
Trip Co-Ordinator

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MARLE HALL 2018

TO BE RETURNED TO MRS WHITEHOUSE IN THE SCHOOL FINANCE OFFICE

I do/do not wish my child to take part in the Outdoor Pursuit Course at Marle Hall, 4 - 8 June 2018.

I enclose a voluntary contribution of £150.00 deposit, **OR**

I have paid my deposit through **Parentpay** (Please delete as appropriate)

PLEASE RETURN YOUR REPLY SLIP AS AUTHORITY FOR YOUR CHILD TO ATTEND THE TRIP EVEN IF YOU HAVE PAID YOUR DEPOSIT THROUGH PARENTPAY.

Signed: (Parent/Guardian)

Date:

Name of Pupil: Form:

Clothing Check List - Marle Hall

Basics

- 3 x Fleece or Wool jumpers
- T-shirts [- lots!]
- 3 x Trousers [Thick tracksuit, combats, no Jeans]
- 3 x Thick wool socks [Not thin football socks]
- Wool/Fleece Hat & Gloves
- Nightwear
- Underwear & Socks
- Casual Indoor clothes
- Wash Kit & Towels
- Toothbrush
- Indoor Shoes
- Old Trainers
- Swimming Costume
- Torch + Batteries
- Plaster strips [for blisters]
- Drink Container
- Bin Bag [to make a waterproof liner for rucksack]
- Wellingtons

Winter

- 'Thermal' T-shirts/ underwear.
- Thermos Flask. [A steel flask in a good investment]
- 2 x extra pairs of Gloves & Hats [Mittens are best for dry slope skiing]
- More torch batteries

IMPORTANT

For all groups - laundry

- All bed linen is now provided by the Centre.
- Each bed has a duvet and pillow.

**DON'T FORGET TO
BRING A LUNCH BOX
WITH YOUR NAME ON**

Summer

- Shorts.
- Baseball/Sun Hat.
- Sun Cream & Block
- Sun Glasses.
- Long sleeved light weight shirt.

The Centre provides for each person:

- Waterproof Jacket & Trousers.
- One Fleece Jumper.
- Walking Boots.
- Rucksack,
- Wetsuit.
- Buoyancy Aid.
- All specialist / Safety equipment

Top Tips

- Sweatshirts and Jeans are not good insulators when wet.
- Wipe heels and toes with surgical spirit for a week or so, to toughen the skin and avoid blisters.
- Always have a bin bag in your rucksack to waterproof it.
- A cheap camera will help to record all the best bits!
- Sandwich box.
- Have your wool socks handy when you arrive so you can try on your boots with the right socks.
- Field Study groups need a big transparent plastic bag to cover their clipboards. It is then possible to write under it when it rains.
- Junior Groups - Bring your own wellies.
- Plain cheap green wellies with black or beige soles, good tread. Not white/coloured plastic soles.
- Very BIG or small feet let us know in advance.
- **DO NOT** buy any expensive 'Designer' outdoor clothing or boots for your course.

ST. BENEDICT'S HIGH SCHOOL - YEAR 9

June 2018		TEAM 1	TEAM 2	TEAM 3	TEAM 4	TEAM 5	TEAM 6	TEAM 7
Mon 4th	pm even	Arrive Marle Hall approximately 1.00pm Introduction. Tour of Centre. Kit issue. Orienteering						
Tue 5th	am pm even	Gorge High Ropes	High Ropes Gorge	Underground Exploration	Underground Exploration	Sea Traversing	Sea Traversing	Mountain day
Wed 6th	am pm even	Mountain day	Mountain day	Gorge High Ropes	High Ropes Gorge	Underground Exploration	Underground Exploration	Sea Traversing
Thu 7th	am pm even	Sea Traversing	Sea Traversing	Mountain day	Mountain day	Gorge High Ropes	High Ropes Gorge	Underground Exploration
Fri 8th	am pm	Underground Exploration	Underground Exploration	Sea Traversing	Sea Traversing	Mountain day	Mountain day	Gorge High Ropes

Kit return at 16:30, Dinner at 18:00, Departure at 19:30

Programme may be changed in response to the weather.