

June 2010

Dear Parents

Year 7 Team Building Trip to Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre, Thurrock.

As part of your daughter's Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education now known as PSHEE, we have organised a team building activity **Friday 15th October 2010**. This activity will be held at Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre, and will involve two, one and a half hour sessions of outdoor pursuit activities. Grangewaters is fully certificated for health and safety, being accredited by the Thurrock Council. Their risk assessment is available on their web site which is www.thurrock.gov.uk/grangewaters. The centre has advised us to inform you that the safety of your child is always paramount at Grangewaters but that there is always an element of risk when participating in outdoor activities. You as parents and the children should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.

The students will leave from school at 8.45 am, returning at approximately 4.00pm. They will need to be sensibly dressed for participating in activities such as canoeing, mountain biking and rock climbing and I have attached an activity kit list. They will also need to bring a packed lunch with them, as lunch will not be provided. Items of any value such as mobile phones and i-pods must not be taken, as neither the school, nor Grangewaters can be responsible for their safety.

The students will be accompanied by staff from the school, as well as qualified instructors from Grangewaters. They will be in small groups participating in one or two activities throughout the morning and a second activity in the afternoon. If your daughter is meeting the group at the centre, they must be accompanied by a parent and wait in the car park until a member of staff arrives. He/she should be there no later than 9.00am. Alternatively, if you wish your daughter to be collected from the centre, a parent should arrive by 2.45pm and checked off the coach register. The cost for this trip is **£23.00** which includes travel, instruction, insurance and the two activities.

As with most school trips we are only allowed to ask parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost. **This payment is not compulsory, but if insufficient voluntary contributions are raised to fund the visit, then it will be cancelled.**

Parents who can prove they are in receipt of the following benefits will be exempt from paying the cost of the trip:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- Child tax Credit, provided that Working Tax Credit is **not** also received and the family's income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs) does not exceed £16,040 (Financial Year 2009/10);
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit; and
- An income related employment and support allowance that was introduced on 27 October 2008.

Please pay for this trip using ParentPay. If you have any problems making payment on ParentPay please telephone Mrs Martin or Mrs Emery on 01702 476026 to make payment over the telephone. **Payment is required no later than 19th September 2010. May we also ask you to tick the 'parental consent' box on ParentPay to confirm that your daughter will be attending this trip.**

Please return the completed reply slip to the school as soon as possible. Please advise the school if there are any changes in your daughter's medical conditions prior to the visit.

We also have some space for a few parents to accompany the group and we would be very pleased to have you join us. Participation in the activities is discretionary.

This should be a very enjoyable day and will help to forge new friendships within the year group.

Yours sincerely

J Howard (Mrs)
Head of PSHEE



WESTCLIFF HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
Year 7 team Building – Grangewaters – 15th October 2010

I give permission for my daughter: _____ Form: _____

to participate in the Activity Day on Friday 15th October. I will pay £23.00 on ParentPay.

My daughter is able/is not able to participate in a water based activity (she must be water confident). My daughter is able/is not able to participate in mountain biking

She will travel direct to Grangewaters for 9am

She will be collected from Grangewaters at 2.45pm

*I am able/unable to help on this trip. (*Please delete as appropriate)

Signed: _____ (Parent/Guardian) Date: _____

