

April 2019

YEAR 4 GRAFHAM WATER RESIDENTIAL ADVENTURE TRIP
8th to 10th May 2019
FINAL DETAILS

Dear parents

I am writing to inform you of the final arrangements for the upcoming residential trip.

DEPARTURE AND RETURN ARRANGEMENTS

Wednesday 8th May

Boys should arrive at school at normal time (i.e. between 8.00am and 8.35am), wearing mufti clothes for the trip, not school uniform. They do not need to bring in pencil cases, Prep Folders or their normal school rucksacks. Upon arrival at school, they should deposit their luggage for the trip in the Atrium. We will depart by bus at approximately 10.00am, after some introductory talks and activities at school.

Friday 10th May

We are due back at school at around 3.30pm. All boys will assemble either on the astro or, if wet, in the Atrium, and be handed over to parents from there. Parents may collect boys from as early as the gates into school are opened (usually about 3.45pm). Boys will be supervised by trip staff on the astro/in the Atrium until 4.15pm, at which time any remaining boys will be escorted to the Late Room in the Inky building. *(NB. Although we should be back in time for bus-boys to catch their regular buses home, it is recommended that parents come to collect from school on this occasion, if at all possible).*

STAFFING

Unfortunately Ms Valentino (4V tutor) has been called for Jury Service for the coming two weeks so is unable to attend the trip. Nevertheless, we have a wonderful team of staff who will be accompanying and caring for the boys. This consists of myself (4M tutor and Head of Year 4), Mrs Carrington (Head of Year 3), Mrs Russell (4M & 4V Art teacher and Outdoor Learning Leader), Mr Roberts (Science Technician), Miss Oakley (4O tutor; with us on the Thursday and Friday), and Mr Silk (Headmaster, with us on the Wednesday in place of Miss Oakley).

ACTIVITIES

The boys have an extremely exciting and varied collection of activities to look forward to. These are: climbing, archery, high ropes, mountain biking, kayaking, raft building and crate stack (a kind of problem solving activity). All the activities are designed for this age group and are led by experienced and qualified staff from the activity centre. We are confident that most boys will want to join in with everything, but nobody will be pressured into doing anything that they really don't want to.

KIT LIST

Please see the list of suggested kit that is at the end of this letter.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

The contact details of the activity centre are: Grafham Water Centre, Perry, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, PE28 0GW, tel: 01480 810521. Only in the event of an **emergency**, please contact either the activity centre or Ian Silk (school: 01234 362274 or mobile: 07824 099743). We have contact details for all parents in case an issue arises at our end.

MOBILE PHONES, MONEY, VALUABLE AND SNACKS

Boys should **NOT** bring mobile phones on this trip. No news from your son will be good news; he will be very busy having a lot of fun! Boys should also not bring any money with them. Any valuables, such as iPods, cameras, Kindles and the like, are discouraged and are brought on the trip at the boy's own risk. Like everything else, they must be **named**. Radios, tablets, electronic games or any electronic devices with Wi-Fi connection are not permitted. While boys will be provided with hearty meals, they are permitted to bring some snacks of their own. These may include sweets. Total value of snacks for the duration of the trip should not exceed £5 and they should not include drinks. Please use your judgement as to what is appropriate; snacks must not become the source of acrimony.

DIETS

The activity centre has been notified of all special dietary requirements that we ourselves are aware of, and they will cater to them fully.

HEALTH AND MEDICATION

We received relevant medical information for all boys when parents signed them up to the trip. However, if there have been any changes in information from that originally received, please let me know before we leave. If a boy has medication that he will need to take during the trip, ***please could all medicine be placed in a named container/robust plastic bag, with full instructions as to dosage and timings etc, and be handed to me on the morning of Wednesday 8th May.*** I will be in the Atrium from 8.00am to 8.35am. If your son requires an inhaler, I ask that he has **TWO FULL NAMED INHALERS** for the trip. He will keep one and the other should be handed to me.

OTHER

We fully understand that, for many of the boys, this will be their first trip of this nature, and some will feel a little bit homesick at times. We will be very sensitive and supportive in this regard. It is usually the case that the fun quickly distracts the boys from their worries, and they are exhausted by the end of the days so go to sleep quickly, but please be assured that all your boys will be very well cared for.

We are all looking forward to the trip and the brilliant time that we are going to have. I hope I have included everything that you need to know, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Maitland
Head of Year 3 and 4
Trip Leader

Grafham Suggested Kit List

Sweaters/Fleeces
T Shirts
Warm trousers (<u>NOT</u> jeans)
Shorts
Underwear: Pants
Socks (thick and thin)
Vests/base layers
Nightwear
Swimwear
Bath towel
Washing kit (which boys should know how to use!)
Indoor downtime shoes (e.g. slippers/flip flops/crocs) <i>NB. Crocs and flip flops are not appropriate for the activities</i>
Outdoor shoes (e.g. Trainers for land activities)
Rubber soled shoes for wet activities (e.g. Plimsolls/old trainers that can get wet)
Waterproof coat/Jacket/Anorak
Waterproof trousers
Gloves
Wellington boots
Hat (visor for sun, woolly for cold)
Sun cream
Water bottle
Several plastic bags for wet clothes
Teddy bear (optional)

Please note:

- All items must be clearly named.
 - During some of the activities, clothes may get wet and muddy, therefore boys will need at least one full change of old clothes per day.
 - It is better to send too much warm kit rather than not enough.
 - It is strongly recommended that new/expensive items of clothing are NOT brought along.
 - Sleeping bags and pillows are NOT required; all linen and bedding is provided.
 - Do not pack mobile phones. Avoid bringing electrical devices.
 - Lost property is held for TWO WEEKS, before then being given to charity.
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- **Please limit luggage to one case/bag per boy plus one small hand bag or rucksack.**