

The Douay Martyrs Catholic Secondary School



14th June 2019

Headteacher:
Mr Anthony Corish
B.A., M.A., P.G.C.E., N.P.Q.H

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Geography Fieldtrip

As part of the Geography GCSE Curriculum, we are obliged by the examination board to have 2 days of external fieldwork (away from the school grounds).

This fieldwork teaches students key techniques in how to collect relevant data and information to solve a particular issue. These techniques are assessed in the final exams in Year 11, and so are vitally important. In addition, this work will also support Curriculum work already completed on River Processes and Landforms which will also be tested next year.

We have already completed the Human Geography Fieldtrip to London Docklands.

The second trip I have organised is to a field centre near Amersham, where we will be completing a physical Geography fieldwork day, based around the River Characteristics of the River Chess.

This is a very small river (it is in fact a stream) so there are no Health and Safety Risks. However, students are expected to get into the river and take measurements. The Centre does have a number of Wellington Boots to lend but not enough for everyone, so if you have Wellies, please could your child bring them on the day.

We are going to explore a local river to better understand river processes and landforms, by collecting data on such things as river velocity, sediment loads and size, landform features along a stretch of the river at various locations, and a whole host of other data.

The field centre we are visiting is staffed by professionals who spend their whole time teaching students about fieldwork techniques, and have all the relevant equipment to allow us to collect such data. They will then consider ways that such data could be presented and analysed.

As there are a large number of students, there are 2 days of trips, as follows:

11C/Gg1 and 11C/Gg2 will be going on MONDAY 14th October 2019
11A/Gg and 11D/Gg will be going on THURSDAY 17th October 2019

We will leave school at approximately 8.50am and travel by coach to Amersham Field Centre, Mop End, Amersham, HP7 OQR.

We will be further travelling by coach to two sites along the river to collect data.

We will return from the Centre at around 2.30pm/3.00pm to be back in school for the end of the school day. Please note that the weather may be cold, so students should dress appropriately.

As previously mentioned, if they have wellies, please bring them, along with spare socks and a towel (in case they get a bit wet). An alternative is to wear an old pair of trainers, which they do not mind getting wet.

There are no opportunities to visit any shops, so a packed lunch and drinks are essential.

It is vital that any medication that is required is brought along to the trip. Asthmatic students will need to have their own inhaler with them. Epipen students will need to ensure that they have 2 Epipens, Cetirizine Tablets or Syrup and a copy of their treatment plans with them. **If students do not have the appropriate medication with them, they will not be allowed to go as medication kept in the school medical room will not be allowed to go on the trip.**

The cost of the trip is **£36.00** which includes coach travel, insurance and also the cost of the field centre hire of staff and equipment. I realise that this is quite a lot of money, but this is a necessary expense to fulfil the curriculum and we need parental contributions to deliver the curriculum.

In order to spread the cost, I have arranged that you can either pay in full or make 2 payments: one before the end of this term, and the other before the trip in October. Please pay via ParentPay against the **‘Geography Fieldwork Day’**. Also please confirm your acceptance of your child participation by signing below and completing the medical form.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

M. Pearce

Michael Pearce
Head of Geography

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Please return completed form reply slip and medical form to Mr Pearce as soon as possible.

Name: Form:

- I give / do not give permission for my child to attend the Geography Fieldwork Day
- I have paid £36.00 in full via ParentPay
- I have paid £18.00 now and will pay the remaining £18.00 in September/October.
- I have completed the medical form

Parent/Carer signature: Date: