

Dear Parents/Carers

This newsletter will focus on the forthcoming Activities Week. I am a strong believer in the value of devoting time to allow students to participate in activities and experiences outside of the classroom. These are often some of the most enjoyable and memorable experiences that children have of their school days. You will know that we have a wide range of activities on offer throughout the week both in and outside of school. There are also a large number of students participating in residential trips abroad including a trip to the Ardeche and Mimoso, which has proved particularly popular and we will repeat this in future years.

I am sure that it will be an enjoyable and rewarding week for all involved and I hope that the weather cooperates during the week, in particular on the Friday when the walk takes place. As you will be aware we are taking the opportunity to run this as a sponsored walk and your support in either sponsoring your child or encouraging friends and neighbours to do so will be appreciated. The money raised will be split equally between charities and to enhance the environment of the school to directly benefit students. I will be consulting with the School Council about this to get ideas from the students.

The other significant event after the holiday is Year 10 Work Experience. At this point almost all of our Year 10 students have secured a placement for the week in a wide range of sectors of the economy. I look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return to school.

I would also like to take this opportunity to let you know that we will be relaunching our rewards and sanctions procedures after the holiday. Our students are very well behaved and their excellent conduct is regularly commented on by visitors to the school. However, on occasion, the behaviour of a small minority of students can cause disruption to learning and our aim is to have a zero tolerance of this across the school.

Having reflected on our current systems this term we have made some amendments to our procedures and these will be explained to students in their first assembly after the holiday. In these assemblies I will also take the opportunity to remind students of our expectations with regards to behaviour, both in lessons and around the school. The main change that parents will notice is around communication from school regarding rewards and sanctions. We will be informing parents that day of any behaviour points that have been given and what action was taken. The main sanction used in the school is either break time or after-school detentions and we would usually give notice of an afterschool detention. However, it may be appropriate, at times, to detain a student on the same day as the behaviour incident and if this is the case we will contact you that day to let you know. Parents will receive this information by email via our 'in-touch' communication system. We will also be informing parents when House Points are awarded and each time a student gains an additional 5 House Points parents will be informed by email.

Year 11 have been working very hard in preparation for their examinations and have approached these with an excellent attitude and I am sure that they will maintain this for the next few weeks. We are not expecting Year 11 students to be in school during Activities Week but the LRC will be available for them to use that week. Year 12 AS examinations have also begun and Year 13 start their examination period after the holiday, I wish them all the best in these and that their hard work this year is rewarded in their results this summer.

Lastly I am pleased to inform you that the school will be introducing a prefect system and that the application and selection process for this will start after the holiday. Year 10 student have been invited to apply for this position and have been asked to write a letter of application to submit to Mrs Mills by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June. All applicants will be given the opportunity to prove themselves in the role over a trial period during Term 6. They will have a number of duties, including assisting at break times and also supporting students lower down the school. At the end of this period staff will be asked to assess their performance and the successful applicants will be confirmed in post for September 2017.

We will also be selecting a Head Girl and Head Boy and their deputies and also House leaders from the students who have applied to be provisional prefects. This will be done through an application and interview process later in the term. These, along with the senior Sixth form students, will form our Student Leadership Group in the next academic year.

Thank you for your continued support and have a very enjoyable holiday.

*Steven Mackay*  
Headteacher

**Important Dates;**

**26 May**

Year 10 Sixth Form Taster Day

End of Term 5

**27 May**

World Challenge students off to Morocco

**03 June**

Year 9 Trip to Ardeche and Mimosa departs

**05 June**

Start of Term 6  
Activities Week

Year 10 Work Experience Week

Year 7 Trip to Barcelona departs

**07 June**

World Challenge Morocco trip returns

**08 June**

Year 7 Barcelona trip returns

**09 June**

Whole school sponsored walk

End of Activities Week

**11 June**

Year 9 Ardeche/Mimosa trip returns

**19 – 22 June**

Yr 7 – 9, 12 Exams

**23 June**

Inset Day

**29 June**

Yr 11 Sixth Form induction

**30 June**

Battle of the Bands

**03 July**

Year 10 Geography field trip (half group)

**04 July**

Year 10 Geography field trip (half group)

**06 July**

New Intake Day

**07 July**

Sports Day

# ACTIVITIES WEEK

## 05 – 09 JUNE 2017

We are very much looking forward to the action packed Activities Week we have planned for the week after we come back from the break and hope your children are too.

There are a few important things to note about the week;

- Please consult the Activities Booklet (attached to this newsletter) for final information on timings and practical requirements for the various trips and activities that are taking place. This is really important as we will not be sending out any further communication on the individual activities. **Please note the booklet has been updated to reflect the most recent information**, so please ensure you look at this version. The latest version has also been added to the website.
- The week is a non-uniform week, for students in and out of school.
- There will be no food provision in school during the week, so please ensure your child brings in a packed lunch each day. Free school meals will be available to collect from the dining room.
- The lunch break in school will be from 12.15 – 1.15pm each day.
- Please ensure you check the original allocation letter for your child’s activities. If you have not paid for any of the trips listed, your child will be allocated to the in-school activity on that day. Again, please refer to the Activities Booklet for information on those days.
- On Friday everyone will be taking part in the sponsored walk. This is a reminder to collect sponsorship money, wear suitable footwear and, depending on the weather, bring sun cream or a waterproof coat. Don’t forget to bring a packed lunch and plenty of water.

Wishing everyone a good Activities Week!

\*\*\*\*\*



	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Barcelona	Lulworth Geography Cove Trip (tutors 8L, 8N, 8S, 8T)	Ardeche/Mimosa Trip
	Bristol Zoo	Harry Potter World Trip	Raft Building
	Harry Potter World Trip	Splashdown (Poole)	Splashdown (Poole)
	@Bristol	@Bristol	School of Rock (2 days)
	Devon Surf Trip	Devon Surf Trip	Devon Surf Trip
			Creative Writing Holburne Museum
	In school activity; Our Planet, Our Home	In school activity; Our Planet, Our Home	In school activity; Our Planet, Our Home
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Barcelona	Lulworth Cove Geography Trip (tutors 8B,8D,8G,8H)	Ardeche/Mimosa Trip
	Cheltenham Science Festival	Bristol Zoo	School of Rock (2 days)
	Longleat	Splashdown (Poole)	Multi-sports Day
	Multi-sports Day	@Bristol	Splashdown (Poole)
	Splashdown (Poole)		@Bristol
	In school activity; Mythical Island Hop	In school activity; Mythical Island Hop	In school activity; Mythical Island Hop
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Barcelona	School of Rock (2 days)	Ardeche/Mimosa Trip
	The Castle Trip	Devon Surf Trip	Bristol Zoo
	Burrington Combe Trip (tutors 7B, 7D, 7H, 7L)	Splashdown (Poole)	Devon Surf Trip
	Egg Theatre Workshop	Creative Writing Holburne Museum	Splashdown (Poole)
		Egg Theatre Workshop	Multi-sports Day
		Multi-sports Day	
		Mask Making	
	In school activity; The Dragon's Apprentice Den	In school activity; The Dragon's Apprentice Den	In school activity; The Dragon's Apprentice Den
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Barcelona	School of Rock (2 days)	Ardeche/Mimosa Trip
	The Castle Trip	Longleat	Cheltenham Science Festival
	Burrington Combe Trip (tutors 7G, 7N, 7S, 7T)	Harry Potter World Trip	Harry Potter World Trip
		@Bristol	@Bristol
	In school activity; Bath Fizzies Design Challenge	In school activity; Bath Fizzies Design Challenge	In school activity; Bath Fizzies Design Challenge
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>			Ardeche/Mimosa Trip
	Whole School Sponsored Walk	Whole School Sponsored Walk	Whole School Sponsored Walk