



27 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 7 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 15 October/16 October 2024

We have now finalised all of the arrangements for the two Curriculum Enrichment days on Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 October 2024, details of which are attached. We have endeavoured to provide a range of activities for all students and have subsidised a number of these activities to try to keep costs to parents/carers as low as possible. These Curriculum Enrichment days offer valuable opportunities for students to experience activities not normally available in the curriculum.

We anticipate all students will take part in all activities.

In order to finance trips, we ask that parents/carers make a voluntary contribution. The school subsidises some of the costs of the enrichment activities but is finding that costs are rising. If you are able to help in the financial support of this activity, there is an option to pay an additional £5. If we do not receive enough parental donations, the trips will need to be cancelled. As the school receives a grant for students currently receiving free school meals, we do not require a contribution from these students as this can be funded from the grant; however, parental consent is still required through **Scopay**. If you have any queries on the funding of this trip, please contact the school's Finance Office.

Payment for trips can be made using the online Scopay system <https://www.scopay.com/castleschool-somerset>. If you are unable to pay online you can pay by cash or by credit/debit card (either in person or over the phone) but you still need to give consent via Scopay to confirm that you are satisfied with the arrangements outlined in this letter. If you do not wish your child to participate you will need to log in and give a reason why. We value your feedback and will take this into consideration in our future planning. The deadline for payment/consent is **Friday 4th October**. You can pay in instalments if it's easier to spread the cost over the next month.

Please ensure that we have your up to date emergency contact details and any relevant medical information for your child, as this information is taken from our school database.

School trips are covered by the Trust insurance policy. Please be aware that:

- a) except for visits abroad, insurance arrangements are the same as for students in educational establishments, i.e., that the Trust can only insure against the proven negligence by the Trust and/or its employees; and
- b) the Trust is a member of the RPA (Department for Education risk protection arrangement) which provides personal accident cover (see copy of the policy on the school website for details) but you may consider taking out your own personal accident cover to supplement this if appropriate.

Please would you direct any further enquiries to the named teacher who is organising the activity.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Lamb
Headteacher

Year 7 Students

Tuesday 15 October		Wednesday 16 October	
GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses
Weymouth Aquarium Visit	Careers: Careers Pilot PSHE: Bullying E-Safety Building Positive Relationships Visitors – NHS Mental Health Support Team	Careers: Careers Pilot PSHE: Bullying E-Safety Building Positive Relationships Visitors – NHS Mental Health Support Team	Weymouth Aquarium Visit

Weymouth Aquarium Visit

Organising teacher: Miss E Crossan and Mr T Slade

Cost: £17

As part of the Year 7 Science curriculum, students will be learning about ecology and the environment, looking at habitats, classification and the adaptations of different species.

The visit to Weymouth Aquarium will enable students to find out about a variety of species from around the world, their adaptations, habitats and the threats facing them. They will be provided with a booklet focusing on these areas to complete during their trip.

Students should wear full school uniform but may wear trainers. All students will need to bring a packed lunch, drink and a pen and pencil. They may also bring a small amount of spending money to use in the shop if they wish.

We will register as normal and will travel to Weymouth by coach. The journey will be approximately 1 hour 45 minutes each way. We will depart from school at 9.15am and to make the most of the day, will return at 5.00pm.

Careers – Careers Pilot

Lead teacher: Mrs P Hunt

Introduction to Careerpilot

Year 7 will participate in an 'Introduction to Careerpilot' session. Students will be introduced to the Careerpilot website and how it can be used to find out more information about careers, courses and options at 14, 16 and 18. Students will review their individual skills and plans at intervals during their time at school.

PSHE

Lead teacher: Mr M Wilkins

Students will be in tutor groups focusing on the following topics:

Bullying

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- To understand the meaning and impact of bullying.
- Cyberbullying
- Appropriate ways of responding to discriminating, hurtful or intimidating behavior.

E Safety

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- To know how to keep safe online
- The potential dangers of online chat rooms
- How to protect yourselves online passwords and digital security.

Building Positive Relationships

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- To identify what makes a positive relationship
- To know and identify when some types of relationships are harmful

Visitors – NHS Mental Health Support Team

Lead teacher: Mr T Keay

We are delighted to welcome NHS Mental Health Support Team members to the school. Students will be in tutor groups for a session on Understanding Emotions.