

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 17 October/18 October 2023

We have now finalised all of the arrangements for the two Curriculum Enrichment days on Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 October 2023, 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 trip 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 **ClassCharts**. 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/cheque (made payable to The Castle School) or by credit/debit card (either in person or over the phone) but you still need to give consent via ClassCharts 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 login 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 **Monday 2 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, ie, 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 11 Students

Tuesday 17 October		Wednesday 18 October	
GOM Houses	RBY Houses	GOM Houses	RBY Houses
Wimbleball Lake Watersports Trip	First Aid Training (in school) PSHE: Financial Awareness Computational Thinking (in school)	First Aid Training (in school) PSHE: Financial Awareness Computational Thinking (in school)	Wimbleball Lake Watersports Trip

Wimbleball Lake - Watersports and Outdoor Activities Trip

Organising teacher: Mr T Keay/Mr M Wilkins

Cost: £46.00

Year 11s will visit Wimbleball Lake, in the hills of Exmoor National Park, for an unforgettable day of watersports and outdoor activities.

Students will be able to take part in some of the following instructor-led activities, including:

- kayaking
- paddleboarding/Mega SUP
- high ropes
- Teacher led activities including: Team building, orienteering, bushcraft.

Students will not be expected to wear school uniform but will need to wear appropriate warm clothing for the activities and comfortable shoes/trainers. Please note that students could get very muddy so be sure to wear old clothing/footwear! Activities on the day will be weather dependent, but wetsuit and changing rooms are provided for water sports.

Students will be expected to bring the following:

- A back pack for their belongings
- A change of clothes/shoes
- Towel and swimwear
- Black bag for dirty clothes
- Packed Lunch
- A coat

We will register as normal and will travel to Wimbleball Lake by coach. The journey will be approximately one hour each way. We will depart from school at 9.00am and to make the most of the day, will return at approximately 4:30pm.

First Aid Training

Organising teacher: Miss M Singleton

We are delighted to have the team from 'Action for Life' in school to deliver a Basic Life Support course for our Year 11 students. The course aims to give students the confidence and knowledge in essential first aid such as: CPR and the recovery position.

The activity will take place in school in tutor groups.

PSHE

Organising teacher: Mr M Wilkins

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

Financial Awareness

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- To understand the use of credit and debit cards.
- To know what interest rates are and how they affect borrowing and the economy.
- To understand inflation and how this affects standards of living.

Computational Thinking

Organising teacher: Mrs G Chapman

Students will complete tasks by developing and applying their problem-solving and computational thinking skills. This is an in-school activity.