

May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Wednesday 23 June - Year 10 Fine Art and Photography Trip to the Eden Project**

This is a day for **GCSE Art and Design students: Photography, Fine Art & Textiles ONLY**. The aim is to provide an opportunity for students to work in a visually stimulating environment, looking at natural and man-made structures. Photographers will be using their photographs as part of the Layers coursework project. Fine Art students will focus their studies on journeys and locations to build a standalone piece to strengthen their Discovery project. Textiles students will be using this trip to gather ideas for their continuing work based on the theme of 'Flora & Fauna'.

Students will be travelling to the Eden Project on coaches and in line with government guidance they will need to wear a mask for this journey unless they are exempt. In line with current government guidance students will also be expected to wear a face covering whilst inside any of the indoor areas at the Eden Project. This includes both of the biomes. Students must be in school uniform but can wear comfortable footwear as they will be walking around the site all day. As the day will involve some periods of working outside, when weather permits, we would recommend that the students bring a waterproof coat. Please bring a packed lunch and a drink. There will be a designated room for us to eat lunch in during the day.

**Fine Art students should bring a selection of easily portable art materials and a clipboard, sketchbook or something to lean on. Textiles students should bring a sketchpad and drawing materials to record ideas. Photographers will need to bring a camera with them**, although there will also be a limited number of school cameras available to borrow if students do not have access to a camera. If students are planning to use their phones to take photographs they will need to make sure they are **FULLY** charged. As photographs would be useful to support all Art and Design students' studies, Fine Artists and Textiles students may also wish to bring their own cameras. Please make sure these are fully charged for the start of the day.

Students need to meet at Bridgwater and Taunton College (SCAT) bus layby at 7.50am so we can leave promptly at 8.00am and we aim to return to school for 5:30pm.

The cost of the trip is £18 which covers the coach journey and entry into the Eden Project. In order to finance this trip, we ask that parents/carers make a voluntary contribution. We very much hope you are able to contribute; if we do not get enough contributions we will have to cancel the trip. 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. If you have any queries on the funding of this trip, please contact the school's Finance Office.

Payment for this trip can be made using the online Scopay system, <https://www.scopay.com/castleschool-somerset>. Please note, you will need to tick the consent box before you can pay. 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).

Scopay is also used as acceptance of your parental consent and 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 **Friday 28 May 2021**.

PTO

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 trip.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Thomson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Mr J Thomson**  
Deputy Headteacher