



St Benedict's Catholic High School

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Headteacher: Mr T P Sara
Deputy Headteacher: Mr J M Nallen

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs M Deeks
Mrs C Wilks



February 26th, 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians

The Geography Department is planning to take Year 10 GCSE Geography students on a residential course in The Lake District from Monday June 28th to Wednesday June 30th. We will, therefore, be away for two nights. **The purpose of the visit is to complete the required fieldwork for the coursework component (controlled assessment) of the GCSE. This component is worth 25% of the overall mark for this examination.**

We believe that it is important for students to attend this course, not only to successfully complete the requirements of the coursework component, but also to enrich much of the work which regularly takes place in the classroom. **Pupils will carry out work related to river studies, tourism, and national parks.**

We will be staying at **Borrowdale Youth Hostel near Keswick**. The cost of the course will be **£105**. (As a matter of interest the cost of the trip last year was £110). This includes full board and lodging, transport, insurance, and other incidental expenses. No specialist clothing or equipment are required. **(Parents and pupils should be aware that the daily activities undertaken will involve a fair degree of walking and a waterproof coat and comfortable footwear will be needed. The school can help with the provision of a waterproof coat if required.)** As it is not possible to cover these costs from school funds so we ask parents of pupils attending to volunteer this amount in order that the course can take place. Inability of a parent to make this payment should not preclude their child from attending, if the course proceeds. Please contact me at school should you wish to discuss any financial matter.

What you need to do now:

- We ask you to pay a £25 deposit **and** return the attached slip by **Monday March 8th** (to the school finance office). Thank you.
- We would prefer it if the deposit (£25) could be made through the school's **Parentpay** system as our aim at St Benedict's is to become as cashless as possible. If paying through this system, pupils should still return their reply slip to Mrs Whitehouse in the school's Finance Office.
- Where circumstances do not allow you to use the **Parentpay** system, please complete the attached slip and enclose it alongside a cheque payable to St Benedict's Catholic High School for £25. This should then be placed in a named envelope and handed in to Mrs Whitehouse in the school's Finance Office.



The deposit will be returned if it proves impossible to raise the required number of pupils or obtain funds to cover the cost of the trip. If your son/daughter withdraws from his/her place monies can only be returned in the case of certified sickness or if the place is taken by another pupil.

Please feel free to make payments by your preferred method of payment at regular intervals over the next few months. We do ask, however, that the payment for the trip is made in full by **Friday May 28th**.

I will send out a final letter in early June with a kit/packing list and the address and contact details of where we are staying.

I thank you once again for your support in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me at school if you have any questions regarding the trip.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Hendry
Head of Geography

CAN ALL PARENTS/PUPILS PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP TO MRS WHITEHOUSE IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE - NO MATTER WHAT DECISION YOU HAVE MADE. **THANK YOU.**

To: Mr Hendry and Mrs Whitehouse

I do/do not wish my son/daughter _____ to take part in the Geography GCSE fieldtrip in June 2010

I have paid my £25 deposit through **Parentpay** (yes/no)

or

I enclose a cheque for my £25 deposit. (yes/no)

Signed _____ (parent/guardian)

Date _____

Name of pupil _____ Form _____