



14<sup>th</sup> September 2011

### **Geography Fieldwork Visit to Betws-y-Coed April 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> 2012**

Dear Parents,

All year 10 students who are studying geography are invited to take part in a visit to Snowdonia during the summer term. This area has been selected as it is a classic area for the study of glacial features as well as being a tourist area. Apart from the glacial features the visit will give them greater understanding and knowledge of other topics they will be studying as part of the new GCSE course. It will also allow students to carry out fieldwork investigation techniques in the town of Betws-y-Coed. This data will be used for their controlled assessment (25% of the GCSE grade) which is to be undertaken in the second half of the summer term.

#### **Accommodation**

The group will stay at Rhyd-y-Creuau, the Drapers Field Study Centre where full board is provided. The centre is run by the Field Studies Council and has excellent amenities for fieldwork investigations. We will leave school on Friday morning and return by 6pm on the Monday evening. The centre is in a mountain environment and there will be a reasonable amount of walking. The itinerary for the visit will be organised and led by the staff from the Field Study Centre but they will be accompanied by the Geography staff who teach your child. They will need to ensure that they have suitable boots for walking along rocky footpaths as well as warm clothing and a waterproof jacket to cope with the inevitable showers of rain which often occur even on a seemingly beautiful sunny day. The centre hires out good quality walking boots and full waterproofs at a nominal charge of £1 per item. Staff at the centre will not allow pupils to walk in the mountains unless they are suitably attired. Every pupil will also need a small rucksack to carry waterproofs and their packed lunch.

#### **Cost**

Unfortunately there is a cost involved as the visit is voluntary. The cost of the trip will be £265 which covers transport, admission charges, accommodation and all meals, teaching, teaching supply and insurance.

#### **Application**

Students who wish to take part need to return the reply slip overleaf with **an initial deposit of £50, in the form of a cheque made payable to St George's School**. Reply slips and payments have to be brought to the Finance office in the main reception building, and must be returned **by Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011**.

Once the deposit has been paid it cannot be refunded. **The full balance for the trip must be paid by 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012.** If you wish to pay in instalments then a payment card can be collected from your Geography teacher. Cancellation within one month of the visit will be subject to the cancellation policy of the centre and no refund will be possible.

Some students are entitled to have the cost of their board and lodging covered. A student qualifies if they are in receipt of free school meals, and it is by reference to our school record of who receives free school meals that we would endorse that a student would qualify for this residential visit subsidy. Such a student might still face some costs on a residential visit e.g. entry costs of site visits. As a trip leader I can clarify this, and any reduced deposit payable in these circumstances. Financial help may also be available from the Harpenden Trust Fund. Any parent wishing to request funding towards the trip needs to send an explanatory letter to Mr Cullis.

More information will be provided at the parent's information evening which will be held on **Wednesday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2012 at 8pm.** Detailed information about the nature of the activities and the itinerary will be given at the meeting. It is therefore imperative that every student is represented at the meeting by a parent or guardian.

In the interests of health and safety to others, it may be necessary to exclude pupils from taking part in the visit if their behaviour in school gives cause for concern.

Yours sincerely,

Miss L Stichbury  
Teacher of Geography

**REPLY SLIP**

I would like my son/daughter Name \_\_\_\_\_ Tutor \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the Year 10 Geography visit to Snowdonia in April.

I have enclosed a cheque / boarders disbursement for £50.

I understand that the balance must be paid by 10<sup>th</sup> February.

(Payment can be by instalments or paid in full at any time before 10<sup>th</sup> February). The balance can be made by cheque, boarders' disbursement or via "ParentPay". Our preferred method of payment is the online "ParentPay" system. If you do not have your log in details and/or have not used this system before, please contact the School Finance Office who will be happy to help you. They can be reached on 01582 765477 or via e-mail at **finance@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk**.

Dietary requirements? None / vegetarian / other (please specify)

Does your child have medical problems identified on the SG7a form? Yes No