

October 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: Year 8 Bushcraft Trip – 15<sup>th</sup> June – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

We are delighted to offer Year 8 students the opportunity to spend time together on a three-day residential camping trip to The Bushcraft Company's site near Badminton in Gloucestershire. The aim of this trip is to strengthen bonds among the year group and to develop character in a gently invigorating environment. The students will be accompanied by Holt staff, but all activities will be led by trained instructors.

The trip will take place from 15<sup>th</sup> June - 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020 which will be during the school's activities week, when all students will be "off timetable". No lessons will therefore be missed by participation in this exciting trip.

**About the trip**

The three-day residential course will act as a fantastic step towards the development of leadership skills, demanding resourcefulness, decision-making and practical thinking from students. Each day will be made up of a range of hands-on workshops, offering a chance to really get to grips with life in the outdoors and providing a unique environment in which to learn and interact.

This experience is structured so that activities alternate between group discussions and practical elements, putting the skills taught into immediate use. The students will work in small groups of between ten and fifteen, each of which will be assigned a Bushcraft group leader, allowing every student the opportunity to really contribute to the collaborative effort required.

Time spent living in the wild offers a wonderful opportunity for students to interact away from the distractions of everyday school life, taking them out of their comfort zones and encouraging both independence and teamwork. By the end of the course, the students will have gained a far better understanding of the natural British landscape and they will leave with a new sense of self-sufficiency and confidence.

Activities are likely to include:-

- Campcraft
- Shelter building
- Night games
- Wilderness first aid
- Camouflage and concealment
- Cutting tools workshop
- Tribes got talent competition

Accommodation will consist of bell tents and permanent shelters. Toilets and washing facilities are provided.

We hope that the vast majority of Year 8 students will take up this opportunity. The total cost for this trip is £190.

If you would like your daughter to go on this trip, then please **pay a non-refundable deposit of £100 and fill in the online consent survey (link is in WisePay)** by **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November**. You will then make one more payment of **£90** by **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020**.

To pay, simply login to your WisePay account details. If you need a reminder of your WisePay login, please e-mail [n.hopkins@holt.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:n.hopkins@holt.wokingham.sch.uk). In the event of difficulties using this system, please telephone Mrs Hopkins the School Trips Administrator.

In case of severe financial hardship, please contact Mrs Martin, Assistant Headteacher, who may be able to put you in touch with agencies that could help or to discuss the situation.

Yours sincerely



Mrs A Herron  
Head of Year 8



Mr B Adams  
Assistant Headteacher