

November 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: Visit to National Museum of Computing – Thursday 2nd July 2020**

On **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020**, the Computing Department would like to offer the Year 10 Computer Science students the opportunity to visit the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes.

The aim of the visit is to help students understand the history of computing and its place in society today by learning about the role of Bletchley Park through history. It will allow students to see first-hand how computer technology has evolved, becoming faster, cheaper and more efficient.

The visit will involve a tour exploring the ‘first semi-programmable electronic computer’, the world’s oldest working computer, 1st, 2nd & 3rd generation computer machines to present innovation, this tour looks at the development of electronic computers after the war. The machines demonstrate key concepts in computing such as the Von Neumann architecture and the Fetch – Decode – Execute cycle as well as looking at real world examples of computing and how it has changed the world in which we live.

Students will also take part in two hands-on workshops using the vintage BBC micro machines, exploring how computers talk and think, looking at computer languages and machine code as well as carrying out a programming task.

We will be travelling by coach. As the session starts at 10am we will need to leave here at 8am to arrive on time. Please **meet in car park 1 at 7:45am** to ensure a prompt departure. The session will finish at 3pm so we should return back to school around 5pm. Students will need a packed lunch, including a drink, as well as a notebook and writing equipment. Students do not need to wear school uniform; however, they should wear appropriate clothing (smart casual) for the trip. All students should bring a jacket and wear suitable footwear.

The cost for the trip is **£33.00**, which covers transport and entrance to the museum including tours and presentations. The payment deadline is **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020**.

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 Simmons (Finance Manager). In the case of financial hardship, please contact Mrs Anne Kennedy Co-Headteacher, who may be able to put you in touch with agencies that could help or to discuss the situation with you.

By paying for the trip will be deemed as having given consent for your child to participate. However, if the school receives Pupil Premium funding for your child, then please give your consent here [Parental Consent - PP2019-20](#).

If you have any further questions please get in touch.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Dearing  
Head of Computing Department