



Bishop Wordsworth's School

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Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

15 May 2015

Dear Parents

To Parents of Year 7 Pupils attending the Camp at Great Yews – July 2015

Your sons will be camping on the following dates:

7J	Depart Monday 6 July	Return Tuesday 7 July
7M	Depart Tuesday 7 July	Return Wednesday 8 July
7O	Depart Wednesday 8 July	Return Thursday 9 July
7P	Depart Thursday 9 July	Return Friday 10 July

On the day of departure boys attend School in their camping clothes; deposit their kit in a designated area; attend their normal classes, and then leave for Great Yews as soon as possible after 4.00 pm. School bags/books are left in School (in a designated area) to be collected upon their return. Boys return to School during the afternoon of the following day and we will aim to get them back between 3.30 and 4.00 pm. They will be dirty and are usually very tired and, therefore, a lift home would probably be very welcome.

Whilst at camp, boys work in groups of about half a dozen. Each group is responsible for its own cooking; boys will be fully briefed about this in order that they can decide who will be responsible for providing specific items of equipment and food.

What follows is a list of recommended clothing and equipment, plus some general advice about appropriate foodstuff.

1. Essentials

(a) Clothing

- an old pair of trousers or jogging trousers
- PE T-shirt
- rugby shirt
- rugby shorts
- thick sweater or thermal top
- waterproof (preferably with a hood)
- spare socks and underwear
- walking boots/shoes or trainers, plus a spare pair of footwear (lightweight – e.g. desert boots, sandals, etc)

NB: Clothing is likely to get very dirty (and will be subject to a lot of “wear and tear”) and, therefore, it is not advisable to take expensive/fashionable items.

- (b) A sleeping bag
- (c) Small towel and basic wash kit
- (d) Basic cooking and eating utensils
 - Knife, fork, spoon
 - Tin/plastic mug
 - Tin/plastic plate
 - Water container (1 litre capacity)
 - Tin opener
 - Matches
 - Plastic bag (for rubbish)
 - Brillo pad
 - An old saucepan or frying pan or mess tin (each boy to provide one of these items for his group).

A small selection of utensils and cooking equipment will also be available for boys to borrow and use.

- (e) Tent - not every boy needs his own tent: approx 1 tent for every 3 boys.

2. Optional items - useful but not essential

- Torch
- Notebook and pencil
- Small pen knife
- Basic First Aid Kit (e.g. plasters, antiseptic wipes, antiseptic cream, etc).

3. Forbidden Items

Please ensure that your sons **do not** bring any of the following to camp:

- Knives (other than small pen knives)
- Fireworks and pyrotechnic devices (flares, etc)
- Drugs (other than those medically prescribed)
- Inflammable liquids (eg petrol, lighter fuel, etc)
- Aerosols and portable gas cookers
- Alcohol and tobacco products
- Radios, music players/ipods, electronic games, etc
- Air guns, paintball guns, replica firearms, etc
- Large sums of money.

4. Food

Boys will require a snack lunch to eat on the day of their return to School. We recommend that this should consist of high-energy items which may be readily consumed, if necessary, whilst walking: eg nuts and dried fruit, biscuits, a chocolate bar and boiled sweets.

They will also need food to cook for the evening meal and breakfast. This food should be substantial but simple to prepare: tinned beans, stews, curries, etc are recommended. Meat products such as sausages should be packed frozen on the morning of departure day so that they will be freshly defrosted by the evening when they will be cooked.

Boys should also have a reasonable supply of such items as tea, coffee, sugar, powdered milk, bread etc. Canned fizzy drinks are not suitable, and eggs always present a problem due to their delicacy.

Tents, spare clothing, sleeping bags, equipment and food should be secured in a bag or rucksack which must be marked clearly with your son's name and form. These bags will be transported to and from Great Yews by vehicle.

Included for your information is a brief outline of the activities cycle:

1	1600 approx	Boys depart on foot for Great Yews
2	1800 approx	Boys arrive at Great Yews
3	1800 – 1900	Site briefing and equipment sorting
4	1900 – 2030	Campfire cooking and evening meal
5	2030 – 2230	Wide games
6	2230	Bed
7	0600	Campfire cooking and breakfast, site cleaning
8	0800 – 1300	Problem solving exercises
9	1330	Boys depart from Great Yews
10	1530 approx	Boys arrive back at BWS

For walking, boys should wear old trousers/jogging trousers, PE T-shirt or school rugby shirt and either trainers or walking boots/shoes. They should carry their waterproofs (in case of rain en route) and any new boots /shoes should have been “broken-in” well before the day of departure.

School Rules apply to all boys attending the camp; please be aware that in the event of any significant lapse in behaviour they may be asked to collect your son from the camp personally.

Finally, we will need an emergency contact number for the period that your son is away from school. Could you please confirm the best number on the slip below.

PAYMENTS: Cost is £3.00

Please pay online via: www.scopay.com by Friday 22 May 2015. If you need a link code please email lbr@bws.wilts.sch.uk

If you have any queries or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact the Lower School Office.

Yours sincerely

S D Smallwood
Head Master
GREAT YEWS 2015 - YEAR 7 ACTIVITY

REPLY SLIP – PLEASE RETURN IN AN ENVELOPE TO THE CHAPEL BLOCK SAFE BY FRIDAY 22 May 2015.

Have you paid online? Yes Not yet (I know the deadline is 22.5.15)
(Please circle as appropriate).

Son's Name _____ **Tutor Group** _____

Emergency Contact Number _____

Signed _____ **Parent/Guardian**

Please print your name: _____