

2 June 2015

Dear Form III Parents

Residential Bushcraft Trip: Wednesday 10 - Friday 12 June 2015

This year we are taking children in Form III on our first residential Bushcrafting Trip.

Aims: The trip aims to develop your children's team-building skills and countryside knowledge, and to provide a celebration of their time in the Junior Department at Ashfold.

Location: The expedition will be based at the Bushcraft Company's Camp off Leafield Road, Cornbury Park, Charlbury in Oxfordshire.

Activities: Your children will take part in the following activities (outline programme attached):

Shelter building	Camp craft using cutting tools
Fire lighting	Making survival bracelets
Wilderness first aid	Camouflage and concealment
Salmon cooking	Lake swimming
Camp fire barbecue and banter!	Rabbit trap making

The Bushcraft Company is providing the camp and instructors for the trip. They are fully accredited and hold the (DfES recommended) Adventure Activities Authority Licence (AALA) and the Learning Outside the Classroom (LotC) qualifications. I have carried out a site-visit and I am confident that they are as professional an organisation as we could possibly wish for.

Timings:

Wed 10 June	 8am Children come to school with all of their kit and register at normal time. Children to wear bushcrafting kit and old trainers and bring a day-bag with water and suitable walking shoes in plastic bag. 8.40am Kit check 9.00am Coach leaves Ashfold 10.00 Arrive at Basecamp and walk to Ashfold camp Programme of activities begins
Thursday 11 June	Programme of activities
Friday 12 June	 3pm Coach arrives at Basecamp to collect us 4pm Arrive back at Ashfold 4.15pm Children may be picked up and go home early

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Staffing: Joining me on this expedition will be:

Mr Jonathan Medwin (Head of English/Deputy Expedition Leader) Mrs Lynn Honey (Junior Dept Teaching Assistant) Miss Cassie Penny (Female GAP student)

Equipment: Each child must bring their full personal kit in at 8am on Wednesday 10 June

Footwear: It is very important that your child has the correct footwear. They need 2 options, so I would suggest 2 of the following: walking shoes/wellingtons/old trainers.

Parental Consent/Medical Form: It is the School's policy to gain parental consent for all residential trips. Please consider the activities shown in the programme and return the attached Parent Consent/Medical Form to **Matron no later than Friday 5 June.** If you have any concerns, do please contact me as I would like all children in Form III to be fully involved in every aspect of the trip. Rest assured, the Bushcraft Company and I have carried out a full risk assessment for all of the activities.

Communications: Please do not contact us unless it is an emergency. In an emergency, please use the following number 07825-585-916.

I will email you via Ashfold when we reach our camp on Wednesday and also on Thursday afternoon, to reassure you we are having fun and enjoying our trip.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Polly McGarry Head of Junior Department and Trip Leader polly.mcgarry@ashfoldschool.co.uk

Attachments:

- 1. Example of Camp Programme
- 2. Personal Kit List
- 3. Ashfold Parental Consent/Medical Form
- 4. If applicable: medicine consent form and zip lock bag