

18/12/17

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Your child is working towards achieving their **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award** and as such has been invited by the school to attend a training day on the school site from 9:30am –3:00pm on Wednesday 3rd January 2018 (this is an INSET day).

The Pre-Expedition Training Day is designed to help inform and prepare the participants for their first practice expedition. It is part of the expectations of the award itself and is evidenced within the participants eDofE profile. **Any young person wishing to attend future expeditions must attend this training.**

Get Outside the Classroom staff will work on a carousel with small groups of participants, rotating around a series of workshops. During the course of the day they will take part in; *First Aid, Packing a Rucksack, Creating a Kit List, Pitching Tents, Food, Stove Use, Basic Navigation & eDofE.*

We have provided a *Participants Handbook* which is available on the school's website under *Enrichment/Duke of Edinburgh's Award* and will also be uploaded into the resources section of eDofE. We would recommend both parents and participants read the document before the expeditions to ensure they are familiar with their content and expectations.

Participants should come dressed to be outside on the field all day. Please check the weather forecast and dress appropriately. Please also bring a spare set of trainers for indoor use as muddy footwear will be left outside. In addition to a spare jumper, hat, gloves you should also bring with you; a packed lunch, pen and mug all in a small rucksack/bag.

During the stove session participants will have the opportunity to make a hot chocolate but may wish to also bring with them a snack which can be made either by boiling in the bag or adding hot water. Keep it simple (no dirty pots expected) and you'll also need your own cutlery if you choose to make anything.

We would hope that all attendees will leave the day feeling able to make sound informed decisions about what to bring (and maybe purchase), be familiar with some of the equipment they will use and more confident about the challenge ahead.

You should arrive at school's Main Reception between 9:15am and 9:25am and sign in with a member of Get Outside the Classroom staff who will direct you to the gathering point. To help the flow of traffic please could parents be ready to drop and go where possible. GOTC staff will also be on hand should you wish to discuss any aspect of the expedition process.

The number listed at the top of this letter will divert to an appropriate mobile on the day should you need to contact your child in an emergency and please don't hesitate to get in touch via email if you have any questions before attending.

Many thanks for your support and we look forward to meeting the group again in the New Year.

Kind regards,



Mark Harnden

