

ZSM/et

24<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Year 8 Outdoor Activity Field Trip**

Learning outside the classroom is widely recognised as a valuable and effective means of extending student knowledge, developing life skills and promoting Personal Development. Consequently, we are giving students in Year 8 the opportunity to join Canoe Trail for Canoeing and Adventurous activities on the River Great Ouse. Canoe Trail is run by Ashley Kenlock and Richard Harpham, a professional adventurer who has completed over 9,000 miles of expeditions by canoe, kayak, SUP, bike and on foot. His adventures have featured in the media including BBC1, Huffington Post, Outdoor Adventure Guide, National Geographic Kids Magazine and Bushcraft and Survival.

Canoe Trail works closely with organisations such as The Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, YMCA, local schools and The Princes Trust to expand young people's experiences and teach important life skills such as problem solving, decision making, communications, team work and leadership. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn new skills in a safe environment. Canoe Trail's activities were voted in the Top 50 things to do in the world by Lonely Planet this year.

The purpose of this educational visit is to give students the opportunity to explore their sense of adventure and take part in river activities (such as Canoeing, Kayaking, Stand up Paddling, Raft Building and Team Challenges) supervised by school staff and led by Canoe Trail's qualified instructors.

The trip will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Students will need to arrive at the Academy to register as normal and then travel by school minibus or hired coach (the mode of transport will be determined by the number of students on each trip) to Bedford Embankment or Matchstick Wood, their private woodland. Students will return to the Academy at 3.00pm, depending on the traffic. Students will need to bring their own packed lunch and they will need to wear clothes and footwear which they don't mind getting dirty/wet. They will also need to bring a change of clothes, footwear and a towel with them and dress appropriately for the weather.

The cost of this trip is £30.00 per student. If you are happy for your child to take part in this visit, please complete the electronic form sent to you as a link in a text message no later than Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Please send in a deposit of £10.00 in order to secure a place on this visit. The remaining balance of £20.00 will need to be paid by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Payment can either be sent in with your child to Student Reception or can be made via ParentPay. Unfortunately, any consent forms completed after this deadline will not be accepted.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Academy.

Yours faithfully

*Zoe Smith*

Zoe Smith  
Teacher of PE