

Swavesey Village College

Specialist Science Status



Principal: Martin Bacon MA

March 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition (Saturday X – Sunday X May, 2009)

The practice expedition for their Bronze Award is taking place around Earith, Cambridgeshire. Participants will need to arrange their own transport to and from the venue to minimise costs and I hope that it will be possible for lifts to be shared. Your son/daughter will need to be dropped off in the St Ives area (TBC) at 9:30am on Saturday morning and they will need picking up from a designated parking area to the South of the B1050, Earith at 4.00pm on Sunday (details to follow).

A list of the equipment needed will be given to your son/daughter and they will be aware of the food that they need to bring for the two days.

The practice expedition will involve the pupils performing a walk that is designed to develop skills and training applicable to achieving the full expedition in which they achieve their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. On the Saturday, students will walk out on a predetermined route from St Ives towards West End Marina Camp Site in Earith. On arrival at the campsite, pupils will spend some time erecting tents and preparing their evening meals. They will then stay the night in tents and throughout Sunday perform a days walk carrying all equipment used over the weekend as they did on Saturday. The total walking distance covered over the weekend will be around 21km (13 miles).

Although every effort will be made of the safety of your child their will be times in which your child will be expected to perform activities on their own. They will also be walking across terrain that could potentially cause injuries and consent is required to ensure you are aware of this. The group have been undertaking training sessions in all the activities they will be performing over the weekend to reduce such occurrences.

In the interests of reducing confusion later, this practice expedition has been costed together with the final assessed expedition. The total cost for both expeditions is **£30.00**. Please return this and the **consent form** on the next page in a sealed envelope with the name of the participant on the front and clearly marked 'Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition', as soon as possible to reception. Cheques made payable to "**Swavesey Village College**".

One of the aims of the expedition is for pupils to work as a group to solve problems without the aid of technology. I have therefore said that mobile phones can be brought on the expedition for EMERGENCY SITUATIONS ONLY. They must otherwise remain switched off all weekend and must be sealed in a bag. This will obviously mean that your son/daughter will not be able to contact you over the weekend, although you may contact us in an emergency on the following numbers:

- Expedition Leader: Tom Grey: 07763616503
- West View Marina Campsite: 01487 841627

If you have any concerns or queries, please feel free to contact me at the school on 01954 230366 ext 255. Directions to the drop off and pick up points will be sent nearer the expedition date.

Yours sincerely,

T. Grey

Tom Grey

Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

Gibraltar Lane, Swavesey, Cambridge, CB4 5RS. Tel 01954 230366 Fax 01954 230437
www.swaveseyvc.co.uk email: enquiries@swaveseyvc.cambs.sch.uk



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Consent Form: Please return by Friday 24th April 2009

Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition (Saturday X – Sunday X May, 2009)

Pupil Form

I enclose the expedition fee of £30

Cash Cheque Parentpay (tick here to activate)

I am aware that the school has a detailed policy on the safe running of educational visits, which I can obtain from the school on request. I am also aware that the school's educational visits are always well organised with a particular attention paid to health and safety. I understand there can be no absolute guarantee of safety, but appreciate that the school leaders of the visit retain the same legal responsibility for pupils as they have in school and will do everything that is reasonably practicable to ensure the safety of everyone on the Practice Expedition.

Emergency Contact Number:

Additional Medical Concerns:

Signed (Parent/Guardian):

Gibraltar Lane, Swavesey, Cambridge, CB4 5RS. Tel 01954 230366 Fax 01954 230437
www.swaveseyvc.co.uk email: enquiries@swaveseyvc.cambs.sch.uk

