25th April 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

**Bronze Level Pre-Assessment Expedition, Thursday 25th – Friday 26th May 2017**

This is an important part of the preparation required for undertaking the qualifying expedition and the weekend is designed to test the organisation and ability of each participant to cope in an unfamiliar environment, as well as giving all participants an opportunity to get to know their team members and to test their camp craft skills, first aid skills and teamwork.

**Depart**: 12:30pm. Pupils should come to school wearing their walking gear and place their rucksacks in the cellar in the East Yard. Pupils must then collect their rucksack at 12:15pm.

**Lessons:** Pupils are expected to go to their normal lessons until 12.15pm. Pupils can leave their school books in their lockers or the East yard cellar.

**Return:** To be collected by parents from 2.30pm onwards from the Bear Flat.

**Accommodation:** Staff and pupils will be camping at Chelwood Scout Campsite, A368, Chelwood,

Bristol BS39 4

**Catering:** Please liaise and plan with your group. Hot drinks and meals for tea and breakfast are required. Please see the kit list for more details. Pupils are required to bring packed lunches and snacks for each day.

**Weather:** Be prepared for all weathers including hot sun and rain/sleet etc. Keep an eye on the weather forecasts.

**Further Information:** This is the Pre-Assessment Expedition and this will test your son’s organisational skills and ability to navigate and cope as part of a team in an unfamiliar environment.

**Expedition dates:** The next training session will be Wednesday 10th May, 3:20pm – 4.30pm, Wednesday 17th May, 3:20pm – 4.30pm (during this session we will brief the group ready for their Practice Expedition).

Wednesday 7th June, 3:20pm – 4:30pm and Qualifying Expedition, Thursday 15th June 12.15pm and return Friday 16th June, 3.00pm at Bear Flat, a letter with further details will be given out nearer the time.

**Suggested Kit:** Please see kit list attached and lists online at [www.edofe.org](http://www.edofe.org) for more information. Please note that if your son plans to use a school trangia they should buy the gas cartridges that you screw rather than clip onto. There is a small amount of school kit that can be rented for a fee. Please let your son’s group leader know what is required during the session on the 10th May.

**Expectations and behaviour:** Pupils are expected to act on instructions given by staff immediately and without question. Under these conditions all decisions by members of staff are final, binding and without question. Pupils who fail to comply with staff instructions must anticipate that they will be banned from future trips and visits. Whilst on the trip all students will be ‘in loco parentis’ of the staff team. This is in line with BANES and DfES legislation.

Yours sincerely



Ms J Fox

Duke of Edinburgh Manager

**Kit Required**

**Individual Items, Please monitor the weather forecast and dress appropriately. E.g if the forecast is warm and sunny a sun hat and suncream is required. If it’s going to be cold, warm weather gear is required.**

60 litre rucksack

Waterproof coat

Walking trousers x 2

T-shirt

Thermal long sleeve top x 2

Warm hat

Walking socks x2

Gloves

Medicines that you requires, e.g. inhalers.

Walking boots

Dry liner for your rucksack

Head torch

Spare batteries for head torch

2 x 1 litre water bottle or rehydration system

Evening meal, breakfast and snacks / lunch for Saturday. Food suggestions – pasta and sauce, boil in the bag meals, porridge pots, cereal bars, malt loaf, dried fruit and nuts, hot chocolate.

Sun hat

Sleeping bag – 3 x season

Sleeping mat

Bowl

Cup

Cutlery – sporks are recommended

**Optional**

Camera

Walking poles

**Shared Kit – Arrange in your groups to bring and share the following items**

Toilet Roll

Two group members to have fully charged phones.

Suncream

Whistle

Gas – if you are renting a school trangia then please buy the screw top and not clip on gas.

Tent – 2 or 3 man light weight trekking tent.

First Aid Kit

Compass

Stove

Matches/lighter

**Shared Kit that can be rented for a small fee from school. Tents, compass, trangia.**

**Please return to Mr Moat in the Pavilion office by Friday 12th May 2017**

**Bronze Level Pre-Assessment Expedition, Thursday 25th – Friday 26th May 2017**

Pupil’s Name: ………………………………………………………… Tutor Group: …….......................................

🞏 I/We give consent for my/our son to attend the Bronze Level Pre-Assessment Expedition Thursday 25th May – Friday 26th May 2017 (please tick box)

🞏 I/We have enclosed the completed BCS Residential Form (please tick box)

\*I/We can make arrangements for my/our son to be collected from Bear Flat on Friday 25th May 2017 from 2.30pm onwards.

\*I/We give permission for my/our son to be dismissed from Bear Flat on Friday 25th May 2017 from 2.30pm onwards

Parent/Carer’s Name: ……………………………………………………..

Parent/Carer’s signature: ………………………………………………….... Date: ………………………………..