

March 2010

The D of E Award Scheme Expedition Section

Dear Parents

I would like to inform you about the training and expedition arrangements for the rest of this term and the summer term.

Bronze Award Training Sessions, Groups 4, 5 and 6

Thursday 18 th March	4 - <u>5.30pm</u>	Campcraft: tents
Thursday 15 th April	4 - <u>5.30pm</u>	Campcraft: Cooking on a Trangia*
Thursday 22 nd April	4 - 5pm	Purpose and Planning for the assessed expedition
Thursday 29 th April	12.30 or 4 pm	Equipment hire for practice expedition
Thursday 6 th May	4 - 5 pm	Debriefing after practice expedition & route card writing for the assessed expedition
Thursday 13 th May	4 - 5pm	route card writing for the assessed expedition
Thursday 20 th May	4 - 5pm	route card checking and green forms for the assessed expedition.

Please note the later finishing times of the sessions on 18th March and 15th April

*This is a practical session, during which the girls will cook an evening meal on a Trangia. They will be cooking in groups of 2 and should organise themselves to bring suitable food to cook. Trangias and fuel will be supplied by school. The girls will be able to eat what they have cooked at school and therefore should not need another evening meal that day! The requirement for the expedition section of the Award is that all participants should cook a substantial evening meal at the campsite. They have already learnt what kind of food is suitable to cook on a Trangia.

30th April – 1st May 2010 Bronze Practice Expedition, Groups 4, 5 and 6

We will be leaving by minibus from the back of school at 9am on Friday morning and returning by 5.30pm on Saturday afternoon. The girls will have learnt what they should bring and must make sure that they are properly equipped for two days outdoors in uncertain weather. It is part of the expectations of the Award that they should be responsible for their own packing.

We will be camping overnight at Downham Camping Barn, Clayhouse Farm, Downham, Lancs. Telephone number 01200 441667 (emergencies only please) on Friday night

Not all campsites have public telephones and you should not expect to hear from your daughter during the expedition. Pupils are permitted to carry a mobile phone in a waterproof packet for use in emergencies only. They will not be allowed to use it for other purposes, but they will be able to contact you to inform you of the expected arrival time back at school. If an emergency arises you will be contacted by Mrs Robinson or one of her deputies. If you wish to contact me during the expedition my mobile number will be 07754 486749. Please leave a message if the phone is not switched on.

While we have attempted to foresee any possible problems that might occur during the expedition, part of the challenge lies in the girls' need to be self-reliant and to navigate for themselves. You should be aware that there will be times during the day when the girls will not be accompanied, although we will not be far away.

Please return the attached slip together with a payment of £10 on **Thursday 18th March**. Please let me know if there are any changes to your daughter's medical consent form by Tuesday 27th April. Please note that your daughter should not take part in the expedition if she has a temperature or suffers from sickness or diarrhoea in the 48 hours leading up to the expedition. In this case, please contact me at school.

Girls may hire some items of equipment from school, and these will be available at school on Thursday 29th April at 12.30 or 4pm.

If your daughter completes the Bronze Practice expedition successfully, she will be able to do her assessed expedition in July. Provisional but probable dates for this are *either* Monday 5th – Tuesday 6th July *or* Thursday 8th – Friday 9th July 2010 (Thursday 8th July is the end of term). You will receive further details about these expeditions in the summer term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C. Southworth
D of E Co-ordinator

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REPLY SLIP

The D of E Award Scheme

Bronze Practice Expedition, Groups 1, 2 and 3

30th April - 1st May 2010

I have read and understood the information about the Bronze Training sessions in the summer term and the Bronze Practice Expedition to be held in Lancashire, and I enclose £10 payment for my daughter (NAME AND FORM) to attend this expedition.

My emergency contact number during the expedition will be Home:
Mobile:
Work (if applicable):

Signature of Parent Date

Please return this slip with payment to Mrs Southworth on Thursday 18th March