

June 2008

Dear Year 7 Pupil and Parents

Bewerley Park Multi-Activity Course **8th – 12th December 2008**
15th – 19th December 2008

I write to you with regard to the annual Year 8 Outdoor Education Course based at Bewerley Park in Nidderdale close to Pateley Bridge. This 5-day, multi-activity residential has become extremely popular offering a challenging and rewarding programme of activities. Bewerley Park is one of North Yorkshire County Council's licensed Outdoor Education Centres. Experienced and suitably qualified instructors lead all activities and you can be confident, that your son/daughter will enjoy a safe week in the outdoors. Following the well-publicised tragedy in a Nidderdale cave in December 2006, you may be reassured to know that our party will not be caving this year. You will be aware the Centre has been rigorously inspected and tested and that clearly we are only prepared to go ahead because we have full confidence in the arrangements being made for your children.

Typical Itinerary

Day 1	am	Arrive kit issue Introductory activities
	pm	Centre based initiative tasks Evening activity
Day 2	am	Walk to Brimham Rocks
	pm	Scrambling/climbing at Brimham Rocks Evening activity
Day 3	am	Canoeing journey
	pm	Orienteering Evening night walk
Day 4	am	Hill walking in the Yorkshire Dales
	pm	Evening presentation / concert
Day 5	am	Centre based Initiative Challenges Clear up
	pm	Depart for Harrogate

Although outdoor activities form the basis of this trip, it is enormously beneficial in so many other ways. For many pupils, a full week may be the longest period that they have spent away from home and looking after themselves is a very important part of the experience. Instructors place great emphasis on personal development during the week and working with others is also an important element of the course. As teachers we frequently see enormous positive benefits and real changes in individuals after taking part in this trip. For more information on Bewerley Park please see the NYCC web pages at: www.outdoored.co.uk

The cost of the trip, including coach travel is £217, which represents extremely good value for a course of this quality and type. There are no hidden extras; all equipment is provided including boots, waterproof trousers and jackets and there is really no need for very much spending money. The cost is legally regarded as a voluntary contribution but the trip can only take place if sufficient participants are able to meet this proposed cost.

If you would like to reserve a place on this trip, please complete the attached consent form and return it in a clearly marked envelope and place it in the catering card box outside of the Finance Office on Friday 4th July with a deposit of £85. Please note that it is preferable for payment to be by cheque and made payable to 'St Aidan's School Fund' with your son/daughter's name and form on the reverse. Alternatively, you may pay the total of £217 if you prefer.

The balance of £132 will be payable in one further instalment on Monday 3rd November. Booking places that are not taken is very costly and causes great difficulty for the school and Centre concerned. Therefore, I am afraid that deposits are non-refundable.

Should you require any further information about the Bewerley Park trip, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

C N Burt
Co-ordinator Outdoor Education

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Year 8

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I would like my son/daughter to take part in the Bewerley Park Trip. I enclose a non-refundable deposit of £85. (Cheques made payable to St. Aidan's School Fund).

Pupil's Name Tutor Group

Signed (Parent/Guardian)

Date.....