



17 March 2023

Dear Parent or Carer,

Activities Week, 17-21 July 2023

This letter is to inform you about Activities Week, which takes place during the last week of the school year in July. During this week, the normal timetable will be suspended and instead students in Years 7 to 10 will be participating in activities designed to complement the taught curriculum. There will be a programme of activities from Monday 17 to Wednesday 19 July, from which students can select those they would like to participate in, subject to availability. Students will also be in school on 20 – 21 July participating in whole-school activities, details to follow nearer the time.

During Monday to Wednesday of this week, there will be a combination of on-site activities and optional off-site trips offered to students. All on-site activities will be free of charge, but most off-site trips will incur a cost to cover travel, admission fees, etc., so please be aware that selecting these trips will commit you to the cost of the trip. Estimated costs are listed below but the final cost will depend upon student numbers. Most day trips will also return to school after the school buses have departed, so alternative transport arrangements will need to be made. More detailed information will be sent at a later date to those who sign up for any of the off-site day trips.

Students can select a combination of half-day activities and/or off-site trips, by using the online form which is linked below. (whole-day trips will of course use up two half-day slots). Students in Year 7 are going to the Intech science centre on the Monday, so they will be selecting activities and/or trips for the Tuesday and Wednesday. Students will need to select up to 10 activities in total in case of timetable clashes, limited available spaces or activities not taking place due to insufficient demand

Please look at the list of activities and trips available below and make your selections using the online form here:

[Activities Week Student Choices Form](#)

This link will require your child's school login to enable access.

Selections need to be made by 9am on **Monday 27 March**. Students who do not indicate their preferences will be allocated a range of on-site activities from those available. Those who are participating in overseas trips during that week do not need to complete the form.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Ragg
Assistant Headteacher

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On-site activities (half-day)

Jewellery making: *Use enamelling, polymer clay and simple metal work to make a variety of earrings.*

Earthquake survival: *Join the Geography department to create your own earthquake-proof structure, then test out how prepared your building would be on the Richter scale.*

Sustainable bug boxes: *As our planet is increasingly feeling the impacts of climate change, it's important we protect our most valuable creatures – bugs! You will make your own small bug box to take home, learn about the importance of wildlife conservation, as well as contribute to a large school bug box.*

Textileology: *Learn new and exciting textiles techniques to recreate what we can see under a microscope.*

Mosaic making: *Use clay mosaics to generate your own creative mosaic tile, gluing colourful clay tiles in place to make a unique design of your own. Once completed the tiles will be grouted, cleaned up and ready to collect the next day!*

Environmental product design and make – *create products from reclaimed and recycled materials, for example bird boxes from reclaimed wood or decorative flower vases from used bottles. This workshop will give you ideas about how you can be creative with minimal environmental impact, using tools such as bottle cutters, laser cutters and 3D printers.*

Architecture workshop: *Design and make a structural form. Explore a site, consider an appropriate intervention and then design and make your idea.*

Photography: *Explore micro landscapes, photographing and learning to edit scenes.*

Friendship bracelets: *Use embroidery thread and other materials to create your own friendship bracelets.*

Flower crown making: *Use dried flowers to create beautiful flower crowns.*

First aid: *How would you deal with an unconscious person if you were the only one around? Or someone who was bleeding or burnt? What if you had to administer CPR? Learn important and potentially life-saving skills in this session.*

Card making: *Get crafty and create your very own greeting card. The session will allow you to make two cards to take home as well as learn new skills such as folding, colour theory and paper craft.*

Italian cooking: *An Italian themed cooking workshop, making dishes such as pizza and biscotti.*

Indian cooking: *learning to make some basic Indian dishes. Bring an apron or something old to wear over your clothes.*

Science experiments: *Carry out experiments you wouldn't normally have the chance to do in your science lessons. A practical session for those who enjoy science and want to find out more.*

Debating: *Learn the skills of debate and argue your case on a big issue.*

Board games: *Take some time out to enjoy some of our favourite board games*

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Crochet: *If you've ever wanted to learn how to crochet, but don't know where to start, then you've come to the right place. Crochet is made with just one hook and wool. We will teach you a simple stitch to complete a square patch. Patches will then be sewed together to make a baby blanket for someone's lucky baby!*

Self Defence: *Great fun and a great workout, while learning important self-defence and martial art techniques.*

Stand-up comedy workshop: *Come along and learn the best techniques for writing and delivering jokes, while hearing Mr Gregory fail at both!*

Guitar for beginners: *Learn some guitar chords and then put them into action by playing a song. Who knows where it might take you – maybe Glastonbury?*

Music production: *Create your own music track using Logic, the digital audio software we use in our music Mac room.*

Press office – *Live reporting on the events taking place. You will be provided with equipment to record interviews and information about what's going on around the school. You will use computer rooms to produce articles reporting on the activities.*

On-site sports / PE (half-day)

Students will need clothing and footwear appropriate to the sport or activity chosen. No specialist equipment is required.

Volleyball
Football
Tennis
Fitness suite
Basketball
Rounders
Dodgeball
Gymnastics
Zumba
Tap dance
Dance
Just Dance
Frisbee
Foot-golf
Orienteering
Cheerleading
Trampolining
Swimming

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Off-site trips (whole day unless indicated)

Watersports – Rockley Park, Poole: estimated cost £55

A variety of paddlesports including kayaking, stand-up paddle-boarding, giant SUP and raft-building. You will need swimming attire and dry clothes to change into afterwards. You will also need old trainers or wet shoes. Wetsuits and equipment will be provided.

Equestrian Experience - Horse riding & grooming (half-day): estimated cost £45

Visit Inadown Farm Livery Stables. Activities include grooming, mucking-out and riding.

Places of religious worship tour: estimated cost £30

Planned itinerary includes a visit to Regent's Park mosque, the Jewish Museum with interactive activities and a synagogue in North London.

Marwell Zoo: estimated cost £35-40

Interactive activities as well as an opportunity to explore the zoo.

Bletchley Park: estimated cost £40

Visit the site where some of our most famous computer scientists and mathematicians cracked the encryption codes used during World War 2. Learn about who they were and the techniques they used to crack the codes and shorten the war. You will also get to see some of the earliest machines (computers) that were used to do this.

Food bank / charity volunteering (free)

Mrs Fanshawe will be arranging a volunteering day at either a local food bank or a charity shop. Spend a day making a positive difference to the lives of other people.

Intech science museum: All of Year 7 Monday cost tbc

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