

6th October

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 9 Geography Fieldtrip to 'Cotswold Wildlife Park'

The Geography Department is arranging a trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park for Year 9 geographers. The intention is that pupils will have the opportunity to gain knowledge about various ecosystems around the world, how plants and animals adapt to their environment and how we can manage these locations in a sustainable way. This will help them to understand concepts within the 'ecosystems' module studied at Key Stage 3. The price of the trip includes admission to the park itself and pupils will have two educational sessions on 'African Animals' and 'Rainforest ecosystems' led by rangers at the park. There will be **90** spaces for the trip and in the event that the trip is oversubscribed we will revert to a ballot system.

The pupils will be in groups for the educational sessions and will then be able to walk around the Park in small groups looking at the different species Cotswold Wildlife Park has to offer, being able to see how they adapt for survival in their habitats. They will be accompanied by a member of staff during the day. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact me for more information.

The visit will take place on **Thursday 3rd November 2022**. We will leave school at **9.00 am** and return for **3.35pm**. The cost of the trip will be **£16** per student; this is to cover transport costs, entrance and the above sessions by the keepers. Pupils will not be required to wear uniform, but must bring a packed lunch. The whole day will be spent outside so it is important that pupils are dressed appropriately with sturdy shoes in case it is slippery and also coats and waterproofs if the weather is poor. As a reminder if any pupils are completing fieldwork in a rural area they should be wearing insect repellent to reduce the risk of tick bites.

If you would like your son/daughter to participate in this trip please make payment by the online payment system (see below) by **Tuesday 18th October**. **The school has set up a new Online Payment System. It would be much appreciated if parents could use this system when paying for this trip, as it will significantly reduce administration time. It is a user friendly system and easily accessible (**www.balcarras.gloucs.sch **and click on £payments on the blue bar at the top).** If you need help setting up the online system, please contact Mrs Davis: sed@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely



Mrs V Bull