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Letter No: 96/2023

11th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 8 Geography Fieldtrip to St Albans – Extended Learning Day Thursday 19th January 2023

The third Extended Learning Day (ELD) this year takes place on Thursday 19th January 2023. It is designed to provide enrichment to the curriculum. Year 8 students have the opportunity to undertake geographical fieldwork in an urban area, helping them to develop an understanding of some of the challenges St Albans faces as a modern city. As part of the Key Stage 3 geography curriculum at Sandringham, students explore a contemporary topic on 'urbanisation'. Carrying out fieldwork in an urban area in conjunction with this will enable students to apply their understanding to real-world scenarios.

Students will travel to school as normal on the day, registering with teachers before heading out on an 'urban walk', stopping at four sites to carry out a number of geographical surveys. For this fieldtrip, students should:

- Wear uniform with a **plain black, navy or dark grey waterproof coat** (as per the uniform policy) which is suitable for outdoor activities.
- Wear **sensible shoes for walking** - Students should bring their school shoes with them, so that they can change back into them when they return to school.
- Students might want to bring a **snack** with them to eat while on the walk, as well as a **bottle of water** to stay hydrated.
- A **waterproof jacket** and warm clothing is highly advised if weather conditions are poor/cold, whereas a **sun cream and hat** would be advisable if the weather is hot and sunny.

Students will finish their urban fieldwork at Verulamium Park, where coaches will be waiting to transport all students and staff back to school for period 4. During periods 4 and 5, students will work in groups to collate and present their findings from the day. The canteen is open as usual, so students will have lunch as they would on a normal day.

We will assume permission for your child to take part in this trip, as per your completed annual visit form we have on file. If you do not want your child to attend this trip, or would like more details, please contact me as soon as possible.



Overall, the day is a fantastic opportunity to expose students further to the challenge of geographical fieldwork which should build confidence in this skill both now and in the future. Additionally, it will provide a solid foundation for further work on urbanisation after half-term.

Participation in this trip is subject to good conduct in school prior to the trip taking place.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Miller
Director of Learning: Geography