



Dear families,

Gold DofE Award Update

I wanted to provide you with an update for the Gold DofE Award and details about upcoming activities. The most significant update is a change to the dates for the practice expedition. This has had to change as unfortunately it clashed with an external examination that several of the Gold Award participants are taking. It will now take place from Monday 29th April to Wednesday 1st May. Also, I now have the confirmed date for the day walk - Wednesday 6th March 2024. The assessed expedition is still planned to take place from Monday 24th to Friday 28th June.

Day Walk - Wednesday 6th March leaving St. Bede's at 7.45am

This will take place in the Brecon Beacons and in order to make the most of the day we will be leaving at 7.45 in the morning. Please can I request that students are at school by **7.30** so that we can leave promptly? We aim to return by **4pm**, but this will depend on walking time and traffic.

Please can you make sure your child has suitable walking boots for this trip as well as appropriate clothing, including waterproofs. They should also bring a day bag with a packed lunch and water bottle. I will discuss this with the students in the training session before the walk, but it is helpful if you are also aware of the essentials that they will need.

Practice expedition - Monday 29th April to Wednesday 1st May leaving St. Bede's at 7.45am

We will be returning to a different part of the Brecon Beacons for the practice expedition and again we will be leaving at 7.45am, so please can all students be at school by **7.30am**. We will need to load backpacks onto the buses, so it is even more important to be at St Bede's time so that we can leave promptly at 7.45.

The students have received a kit list and I will share it again on Google Classroom. We will also be discussing it in the training sessions leading up to the expedition. If you have any questions about any of the items, please let me know.

Finance

Thank you for all the payments already received. I am sharing the schedule for payments again as the next payment of £110 is due on 2nd February.

£40	Due by Friday 20 th October 2023 (non-refundable deposit)
£110	Due by Friday 2 nd February 2024
£110	Due by Friday 22 nd March 2024
£110	Due by Friday 10 th May 2024

Please do get in contact if you have any questions about the award or expeditions. My email address is: silverm@stbcc.org.

Kind Regards,

Mr M Silver

Duke of Edinburgh Award Manager

