

# **QEH JUNIOR SCHOOL**

**Year 6 Field Studies Week  
Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> March to Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2010**

New Barn Field Centre  
Bradford Peverell  
Dorchester  
Dorset  
DT2 9SD

Information for Parents

# **New Barn Field Studies Week**

## **Information for Parents**

### **What are the benefits of a residential visit of this type?**

#### **Personal and Social Development**

The opportunity for children to stay away from home in a challenging and enjoyable environment is of immense value towards the development of the child as an independent and confident young adult. They learn to think and act independently, they discover and develop new skills and return from such visits with a sense of personal achievement. There is also a strong emphasis on the development of interpersonal skills and attributes, involving the children in working co-operatively and collaboratively in groups.

#### **Why New Barn?**

After focusing on outdoor and adventurous activities in Years 4 and 5, we felt it suitable to take the boys somewhere with a slightly different emphasis for their week away in Year 6. New Barn allows the boys to take part in some new and different activities, all in a gloriously remote rural location. At the same time, the programme of planned activities addresses many areas of the curriculum (Science, History, Art and Geography in particular) in practical and challenging ways.

Last year, Mrs. Taylor and the previous Year 6 class had a fantastic time at New Barn and highly recommended it!

#### **DETAILS OF COURSE**

**When:** Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> March to Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2010

**Where:** New Barn Field Centre, Bradford Peverell, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 9SD

#### **How will the group travel?**

By coach. We aim to depart at approximately 9.30am on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> March. On that morning, you can drop your child off at school at the normal time or you can bring them in a little later if you so wish (by no later than 9.00am). We will leave from the front entrance to the senior school, where you are welcome to wait to wave goodbye to your son! We will leave New Barn after lunch on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May so we should be back at QEH by 3.30 to 4pm. Please make arrangements to collect your son then, rather than placing them in after-school care. They will be tired and will need to go home to Mum and Dad!

#### **Who will accompany the group?**

Mr. Hall and Mrs. Russell. Mr. Morris also plans to come and visit us during the week.

## **What will the children need to bring?**

Here's the really important bit! What you need to put in their bags!! This is the kit list from the New Barn website:

- Teeshirts, long-sleeved shirts, sweatshirts, a fleece, and/or warm jumper.
- Lots of thin layers are better than one or two thick ones.
- Shorts, trousers (Please note that jeans or denim are fine for some on-site activities, but should not be worn on long walks).
- Nightclothes (dressing gown optional).
- At least 2 pairs of footwear (eg. trainers or shoes), + walking boots (optional).
- Wellies are sensible for some on-site activities and for walks during wet weather but are not essential.
- Wash kit (facecloth, soap, shower gel, toothbrush & toothpaste).
- A hand towel and a bath towel.
- A peaked cap and/or sun hat with a circular brim.
- A personal drinks bottle.
- At least two plastic bags; one to keep dirty clothes separate from clean clothes, and one to sit on outside if the ground is damp.
- Pack your main kit into a large hold-all or bag. (Suitcases are fine, but are sometimes awkward for children to carry between vehicles & accommodation).
- Bring a small day bag or rucksack, preferably with two straps and large enough to carry lunch, waterproofs, and a spare sweatshirt or jumper.

As we are going in March, the emphasis must be on making sure your son has some good warm and waterproof clothing with him.

Also, please do pack a stamped, addressed envelope. We will be encouraging the boys to write a letter home to Mum and Dad after the first day.

All clothing and personal equipment should be name taped or marked with indelible ink. Children are notorious for leaving items behind when distracted. **PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING!**

**Please make sure that your son has a packed lunch and a drink with them on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March.** Lunch will not be provided when we arrive at New Barn on that first day.

## **How much additional money will the children need to bring?**

The costs for the visit are all inclusive. However, there is a small shop site where children may purchase snacks, drinks and small souvenirs. We suggest that the boys bring no more than £15. They will be responsible for looking after their own pocket money for the week. Please make sure that your son is provided with a named purse / wallet to keep their pocket money in.

## **Accommodation**

The boys will be staying in purpose-built accommodation blocks called The Cottages. The rooms are warm and comfortable! The Cottages will only be used by QEH boys while we are there. The boys will sleep on bunk beds with no more than four in a room. The accommodation blocks are secure at night, as indeed is the whole site. The accommodation rooms themselves will be locked at night from the inside by the boys. Lights out will be at approximately 10.00pm. If any of the boys have any problems at night, they can go straight to Mr. Hall or Mrs. Russell, who will also be staying in the Cottages. There is also a Night Duty Instructor from New Barn available throughout the night, who is first aid and lifesaver qualified.

## Meals

The boys will eat three square meals a day at the canteen on site at New Barn. The food is very good and plentiful! Please let us know if your son has any particular dietary requirements by completing the attached form and returning it to Mr. Hall by Monday March 8<sup>th</sup>. New Barn will be happy to accommodate any particular requirements.

## What will the children be doing during their stay?

Most of the activities will be undertaken as a whole class of 20, although we may be split into small groups for some activities. All instructors at New Barn are CRB checked and have first aid and lifesaving certificates as a basic requirement.

The following exciting, stimulating and varied activities have been arranged for the week:

- Monday** – Nature walk and animal encounters.
- Tuesday** - Shelter building, pond dipping, pottery and night safari.
- Wednesday** - Roman 'Living History' Day including marching and bread making.
- Thursday** - Fossil hunting at Charmouth, visit to Lulworth Cove, camp fire, BBQ, talent show.
- Friday** - Tour of Corfe Castle and lunch before returning to school.

## Other useful information

- **Medication:** If your son needs to take any medication while they are there, please make sure their medication and details of their dosage is put in a named container and given to Mr. Hall on the morning of departure. Mr. Hall will look after all medication and make sure the boys have it when they should.
- **Sweets:** There is no need to pack lots of sweets and snacks for your child. All we suggest is perhaps a packet of boiled sweets for the coach journey. Please do not give your child any sticky or chewy sweets to take, particularly chewing gum.
- **Electronic Equipment:** Your son will be very active and stimulated while they are at New Barn and they won't have much time to relax and play on a games console! If they do want to bring a small games console for the coach journey, this is OK, although I will collect in the console and lock it in a safe in the accommodation block for the duration of the week. They can then have it back for the return coach journey. **Please do not let your son bring a mobile phone with them.**
- **Letters and postcards:** Please feel free to send a postcard or letter to your son at New Barn during the week. Mark it for your son, QEH Juniors, c/o New Barn Field Centre, followed by the site address. From previous experience, this is always greatly appreciated by the boys and helps to stave off any homesickness.
- **Behaviour:** We and all the staff at New Barn will be expecting the highest standards of behaviour from the boys. If anyone seriously misbehaves, their parents will be called and they will be expected to come and collect their son from site as soon as possible.

- **Emergency Contacts:** Mr. Hall will take all parents' contact details with him to New Barn and you will be contacted immediately in the event of an emergency. The boys will be discouraged from phoning home, although if your son really needs to phone home then he can. He'll be able to do this from the office on site. If you need to contact us during the week, the following numbers will be useful:

<b>New Barn office</b>	-	<b>01305 268865</b>
<b>Email</b>	-	<b><a href="mailto:office@newbarn.co.uk">office@newbarn.co.uk</a></b>
<b>Mr. Hall mob (emergency only)</b>	-	<b>07905 497806</b>

I will also be in regular contact with Mr. Morris at the Junior School over the week. If you have a non-urgent message you would like to get to your son during the week, you could also phone the school office on 0117 930 3087 and leave a message that I can collect when I check in!

If you have any queries before we go, please contact me by ringing the Junior School or please feel free to email me on [rhall@qehbristol.co.uk](mailto:rhall@qehbristol.co.uk)

Additional information is also available at the New Barn website.

[www.newbarn.co.uk](http://www.newbarn.co.uk)

I hope your son has a fantastic time at New Barn.

Kind regards,

Mr. Hall  
Senior Master  
QEH Juniors