Form 11 Residential Field Study Trip in Sierra de Gredos

Monday 20th April 2015

Dear Parents,

It is proposed that the Science and Humanities Departments will be running a residential field study visit to the Gredos Field Centre in the Sierra de Gredos near Avila in Spain from Thursday, 4th June to Monday, 8th of June, 2015.

The course has been devised for Form 11 IB students of Biology, Environmental Systems/Societies, and Geography. The main objective of this course is to enable students to experience a variety of fieldwork opportunities within a stimulating environment; more specifically, to collect data for externally assessed fieldwork projects and to develop data collection skills in preparation for examination and further study.

Students will be participating in a structured programme of academic fieldwork and outdoor activities over five days which will include a river study, a fresh water habitat survey and an ecosystem comparison. Leisure activities include archery, abseiling and mountain biking with optional activities of paintballing or horse riding subject to numbers.

The students will be staying at the Gredos Field Study Centre (Centro Internacional de la Naturaleza – International Environment Centre) which is a purpose built educational and outdoor centre, located 2km from the village of Navarradonda de Gredos in the Gredos Mountain Range Regional Nature Park, 2 hours West of Madrid and a 5 hour coach journey from Oporto. The Centre has, in recent years, become increasingly popular as a destination for field studies by International Schools, throughout Europe. Students will be staying in dormitory accommodation and all meals will be provided. The Centre will also provide educational materials such as worksheets and local staff who have specialised knowledge of the region as well as three OBS staff members. Supervising OBS staff members will be resident in the building where the dormitories are located.

The cost of the trip will be approximately €400 inclusive (except spending money). It is expected that all students will attend the course as an integral part of their studies. I would ask you to complete the form below and return it to Miss Smith by Monday 26th April.

Should you have any further questions regarding the matter, please do not hesitate to contact us. Further details of the visit will be issued later in the Summer Term.

Yours faithfully,

Miss K. J Smith
Head of Science Department
At all times students must ensure that they are exemplary in their conduct and behaviour; they are essentially, ambassadors for Oporto British School. It must also be stated that the consumption or purchasing of alcohol on school trips is strictly prohibited. In the unfortunate circumstance(s) that these standards are not adhered to, staff will contact the parent(s) and the Head of Section, with a view that they may be sent home or collected immediately.

I agree to let my son/daughter attend the residential field study course at the Gredos Centre in Spain between the 4th and 8th June 2015. I agree to a non-refundable deposit of €50.00 being added to my school bill in May and the balance of €350 be added to my school bill in June.

Late cancellation without sufficient justification may result in the loss of the deposit or any further payment.

Student’s Name: .......................................................................................................................... Form: .................

Parents’ signature: ..................................................................................................................... Date: ..................
Code of Conduct for pupils of Oporto British School whilst on trips

As selected representatives of Oporto British School, pupils are expected to adhere to the following code, without exception.

- To behave in a responsible and mature manner
- To listen and respond to staff requests immediately
- To use appropriate language at all times
- To be conscious and sensitive to the responses of other members of the public to you at all times
- To be polite and courteous when dealing with peers, younger children and adults from Oporto British School community, other school communities and the general public
- To represent the high standards of Oporto British School community
- To avoid littering or damage others property
- Not to engage in the consumption of alcohol, smoke or use illegal substances at any time
- To adhere closely to the rules and requests of centres or organisations that are being visited
- To get most positive and rewarding experience possible from attending the trip
- To follow OBS Computer Use Policy for all electronic devices
- To follow rules relating to bedtime.

In the unfortunate circumstance(s) that these standards are not adhered to, the party leader will contact the parent(s) and the Head of Section, with a view that they may be sent home or collected immediately.

Signed pupil: 

Date:
PARENTAL CONSENT FOR A SCHOOL VISIT
(to be distributed with a letter giving full details of the visit)

School/Group:

1. Details of visit to Gredos, Spain

   From: Thursday, 04th June 2015
   To: Monday, 08th June 2015

I agree to (name) .................................................................................................................. taking part in this visit and have read the letter. I also agree to their participation in the activities described and acknowledge the need for them to behave responsibly.

2. Medical information about your child

   a. Any conditions requiring medical treatment, including medication?  
      YES/NO
      If YES, please give brief details:

   b. Please outline any special dietary requirements of your child and the type of pain/flu relief medication your child may be given if necessary:

For residential visits and exchanges only

   c. To the best of your knowledge, has your son/daughter been in contact with any contagious or infectious diseases or suffered from anything in the last four weeks that may be contagious or infectious?  
      YES/NO
      If YES, please give brief details:

   d. Is your son/daughter allergic to any medication?  
      YES/NO
      If YES, please specify:

   e. When did your son/daughter last have a tetanus injection?

I will inform the Headmaster as soon as possible of any changes in the medical or other circumstances between now and the commencement of the journey.
3. Declaration

I agree to my son/daughter receiving medication as instructed and any emergency dental, medical or surgical treatment, including anaesthetic or blood transfusion, as considered necessary by the medical authorities present.

I understand the extent and limitations of the insurance cover provided.

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<th>Your contact telephone numbers:</th>
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<td>Work:</td>
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<td>Home address:</td>
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<th>Alternative emergency contact:</th>
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<td>Name:</td>
<td>Telephone number:</td>
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<th>Family doctor:</th>
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<td>Doctors name:</td>
<td>Telephone number:</td>
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<td>Address:</td>
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Signed (parent):     Date:  

Full name (capitals):

THIS FORM OR A COPY MUST BE TAKEN BY THE GROUP LEADER ON THE VISIT. A COPY SHOULD BE RETAINED BY THE SCHOOL CONTACT