

7th September 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian

As part of the Outdoor Education/PHSE programme there will be an opportunity for Year 6 pupils to go sailing on the following dates:

- Monday 12th September
- Tuesday 20th September
- Friday 30th September
- Tuesday 4th October
- Friday 14th October
- Monday 17th October

Sailing encourages teamwork and we shall be studying weather in geography; a good link. The sailing course includes knots and rigging a boat and a number of dates allows the children to experience a range of sailing conditions. It is hoped that they will have reached at least Stage 1 standard by half term.

On all occasions we shall leave school at around 0915 and sail from 1100 until 1430. We shall return to school by 1555.

The sailing will be at Farmoor Reservoir near Oxford. There is a resident sailing warden/instructor and buoyancy aids will be provided. The sailing will be fully supervised by qualified staff. Patsy Howes and another member of staff will accompany the pupils.

For sailing your child will need:

TWO complete changes of dry clothes, (including underwear if they do not wear swimming things underneath their clothes).

A towel

A waterproof jacket and trousers – even if they are wearing a wetsuit

If the weather is warm a pair of shorts can be brought

A pair of non-slip shoes to get wet in – old trainers are fine

A peaked hat is useful

Sunscreen cream

If your child wears glasses or wishes to wear sunglasses, please equip them with a tie to hold the glasses on; glasses do not float!!

A plastic bag big enough to hold wet clothing is useful.

Without the proper equipment your child will not be allowed to sail.

If you have any problems with the sailing equipment please contact me. We have plenty of wetsuits and waterproofs available for the children.

Transport will be by school minibus and a packed lunch will be provided. If your child wishes to bring their own packed lunch or a small snack to eat after sailing that is fine.

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In order to cover the costs of travel and instruction a charge of approximately £23 per session will need to be added to the school bill. The final cost will depend on how many people go each time, eg absence etc.

Sailing may be cancelled due to deteriorating or unsettled weather conditions; if this happens no charge will be made for any cancelled sessions.

As a pre-requisite for sailing participants must be able to swim 50 metres **or** be water confident. If you would like your child to take part in this activity please sign and return the attached form as soon as possible.

It is always useful to have another adult present. If you are able to help on any of the dates and have a current CRB certificate acceptable to school please let school know. You do not need any knowledge of sailing to be of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Patsy Howes

Please return to Patsy Howes by **Friday 9th September**.

I give permission forto take part in the sailing activity on

- Monday 12th September
- Tuesday 20th September
- Friday 30th September
- Tuesday 4th October
- Friday 14th October
- Monday 17th October

My child can swim 50m / is water confident (delete as applicable). I understand that the cost of approximately £23 per session will be added to the school bill.

Signed: Parent/Guardian

Date: