

Y9/ThorpePark/LH
June 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 Graduation - Trip to Thorpe Park – Friday, 6 July 2018

We are writing to confirm the arrangements for the end of Year 9. This is a time of great importance for students as they look forward to the commencement of their GCSE studies.

During the final weeks of the Summer term, the Key Stage 4 team are meeting students in Year 9. For your information the Key Stage 4 staff are: Mrs S Hills – Head of Year, Mrs V Parsons – Head of Year, Mrs D Stockwell – Senior Student Support Officer, Mr T Breakspear – Deputy Head of Year, and Mrs N Jordan – Admin & Student Support Assistant.

As a reward for all their efforts whilst in Key Stage 3, and to mark their transition to KS4, the KS3 team is delighted to be able to offer a celebratory trip for all students to Thorpe Park on Friday, 6 July.

The cost of the trip will be £30.50 per person, which includes entry into the park and coach travel. Students arrive at Longsands at 6.45 am and line up quietly in their forms at the bus bays. Please note that the price quoted does not include the cost of food and drink for the day. Students will be able to purchase food or bring a packed lunch. This is a non-school uniform trip: please ensure your son/daughter wears suitable clothing depending on the weather and, if hot, brings sun cream. Please note:

- Coaches will leave the Academy promptly at 7.00 am
- Arriving at Thorpe Park by approximately 10.00 am
- Leaving Thorpe Park at 3.00 pm
- Arrive back at Longsands by approximately 6.00 pm

We will ask students to send a text, if possible, when we are approaching St Neots on our return journey.

To ensure students can safely disembark coaches upon our return to school, can we ask Parents/Carers NOT to park in, or obstruct, the bus bays at the front entrance; please use the allocated spaces in the car parks at the front and rear of the building. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

If your son/daughter would like to go on this trip, **ParentPay will open for payment from 9.00am on Friday, 8 June**, please make your payment as soon as possible from this time, **and no later than Monday, 18 June**. *There are enough places for all students in Year 9 to attend this trip*, once paid you can assume your son/daughter has a place unless we contact you. Should you have any problems accessing your account please contact the Finance Department on 01480 223336/37. **Please provide information listed below in the mandatory notes section on ParentPay:**

- An emergency contact name and number for the day of the trip
- Relevant medical information
- If your son/daughter is in receipt of free school meals and he/she requires a packed lunch

Please be aware that participation in this event is seen as a reward for students for their positive attitude towards Academy life. Should we have any concerns about your son/daughter's behaviour, we will be in contact to discuss his/her place on this trip. We reserve the right to not take any student whose behaviour is considered in any way antisocial or unsafe. The Academy is required to undertake a risk assessment for all trips and visits. We cannot allow any student to take part in an activity unless any risk involved is assessed as being low. Details of the trip and our expectations will be conveyed to students via assemblies and during tutor time.

If your son/daughter is eligible for Pupil Premium funding, you may be able to access financial support for this purchase. Pupil Premium funding is available for students who have been eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years, are looked after or have parents in the armed forces. Further advice on eligibility for Pupil Premium funding is available on our website. If you are not eligible for Pupil Premium but are currently experiencing financial hardship, the Academy may be able to support you. If you wish to apply for Pupil Premium or discuss current financial hardship, please write to or email Mrs E Simpson via (esimpson@longsands.cambs.sch.uk). If you are applying for financial support, please pay a £5 deposit to reserve a place on the trip and then contact Mrs Simpson immediately to discuss the remaining payment.

If your son/daughter is unwilling or unable to attend the trip, alternative provision will be provided at the Academy. If the trip has already been paid for, unfortunately, refunds can only be considered under exceptional circumstances at the Academy's discretion.

On behalf of the KS3 team, we wish your son/daughter a successful conclusion to Year 9 and thank you for your continued support.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact your son/daughter's tutor in the first instance.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Powell
Head of Maple School



Miss K Bingham
Head of Aspen School



Mrs S Postins
Head of Willow School