

15<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Year 8 Graduation Residential with The Bushcraft Company.**

Your child has been allocated a place on the Year 8 Graduation trip with The Bushcraft Company at Hatfield Woods, in Hertfordshire. We will be leaving on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017** and returning on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017**. The three-day residential adventure acts as a fantastic step towards the development of leadership skills, resourcefulness, decision-making and practical thinking from students. Each day will be made up of a range of hands-on workshops, offering a chance to be outdoors in a truly unique environment in which to learn and interact.

Please be aware that in order to attend the residential, students must graduate. Graduation is dependent on your child not receiving any E4s in Praising Stars 4. As a reward for graduating into Year 9 the academy will fund the majority of the visit for your child, therefore we require from you a contribution of £25.

The coach is due to leave school at approximately 10.00am (times subject to change). Please ensure your child is in school for 8.00am to register for the visit and drop off luggage and medication in the main hall. We intend to arrive back in school for approximately 6.30pm on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017, and as parents or carers you are expected to meet your child off the bus.**

Students are advised to not take their mobile phones on the trip, however, we understand students may need them to contact parents and carers on their way back. However, please be aware that all student mobile phones will be kept in the safe at Bushcraft Company for the duration of the trip. If students fail to follow this instruction or misuse their phones, staff have been advised to confiscate phones and parents or carers will be expected to collect phones on return to Outwood Academy Valley.

If you wish to find out more about the ethos of The Bushcraft Company, its activities, supervisory and safety measures, please visit [www.thebushcraftcompany.co.uk](http://www.thebushcraftcompany.co.uk)

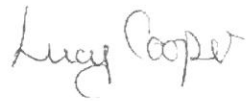
Students will be sleeping in groups of 10, in large single-sex bell tents. Students will need to have a sleeping bag, roll mat, torch, appropriate footwear and some warm clothes. We appreciate that not all families will have a sleeping bag or roll mat. Decathlon sell sleeping bags for £11.99, and roll mats for £3.00. However, we have a number of hired sleeping bags should you need to borrow one for your child.

Please indicate on the reply slip if you require a sleeping bag, or not, and return to school at the earliest convenience.

I have also attached the compulsory consent form that needs to be completed and returned to Student Reception before **27<sup>th</sup> March 2017**. **If the forms are not returned (or completed in full), your child will not be able to attend.**

Please ensure your £25 contribution is handed in to the Finance Office by **27<sup>th</sup> March 2017**. If you are paying by cheque please make it payable to "Outwood Academy Valley." Please note that all money paid is non-refundable.

Yours sincerely,



**Lucy Cooper**  
**Assistant Principal**

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**Reply slip and pink consent form: Please return to student reception.**

I give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the Y8 Graduation trip.

We require a sleeping bag

We do not require a sleeping bag

Please return the slip to Student Reception as soon as possible.

Thank you.