



THE PRIORY SCHOOL

D O R K I N G

Headteacher: Mrs J Trimnell

2nd January 2024

Dear Parents

Geography Fieldwork | Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Westfield Stratford City

As part of our geographical studies we have organised a one day excursion for all students on the Year 9 Geography course on **Tuesday 23rd January**.

Often significant differences in life expectancy are thought to be between 'rich' more economically developed countries and poorer parts of the world; yet in London, in a distance of just 8 miles between Oxford Circus and Star Lane in Stratford, East London, life expectancy drops by over 20 years. The aim of the trip is to visit the site of the 2012 Olympic Games, investigating urban regeneration and sustainable development as well as changing patterns of shopping – and to understand a longer term Government objective to 'narrow the gap' in life chances between West/Central London and the East End.

The main Olympic Park is fully opened and, weather permitting, we will walk through the northern parkland where we will be able to see the Main Stadium, Aquatic Centre, Copper Box Arena, Velodrome and part of the Athletes Village (now the E20 development). We will then visit the new Westfield development in Stratford; Europe's largest urban shopping centre, located on the edge of the Olympic Park adjacent to both the International and Domestic gateway stations to the games. Here we will investigate the business model involved in the design of the centre as well as environmental initiatives to make the area more sustainable. Students will collect data on the trip which will be used in subsequent lessons to produce an assignment considering the legacy of the London 2012 games, specifically whether the games has rejuvenated this once 'run down' area of the capital city.

We will be travelling via coach, departing school at **9.00am** and returning at approximately **5.00pm**. There are places at Westfield to purchase **food** or alternatively students may wish to bring their own packed lunch. Students will need to wear their **full school uniform** on this day as a security measure.

Students will be allowed to spend some time in the Westfield Centre in small groups and as such, not directly accompanied by staff members. It is therefore essential that students' behaviour is exemplary and that any purchases on the day are appropriate for a school trip. Students should bring some spending money with them, but no more than **£20**. Phones and cameras can also be carried, but as with money it will be the responsibility of your child. Some areas of the Westfield shopping centre will be 'out of bounds' (such as the casino and cinema) for obvious reasons.

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At the end of the day the coaches will drop students in the coach park in Longfield Road and I would be grateful if you could arrange to pick up your son or daughter if applicable as we will obviously not connect with the normal buses and coaches.

If you would like your son/daughter to take part in this excursion, please complete the Consent Form [here](#) and online payment for **£20.00** on Scopay under Trips & Events – **Geography Olympic Park 2024**. If you still require a link code to register your child for online payments please email kct@porycofe.com.

Please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mr Pinchin, should you have any queries about this trip.


Many thanks for your ongoing support,



Mr R Harrington
Geography Department

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