

TJW/tp

6 September 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: Year 8 Geography – Sea Life Centre London & River Thames River Cruise - Monday 2 October or Tuesday 3 October 2023**

In order to enrich the Geography curriculum and support the teaching of our oceans unit, the Wildern School Geography Department has organised a day trip to London. This trip will visit the **Sea Life Centre** where students will be able to explore the exhibitions and further their knowledge on topics such as coral bleaching, plastic pollution and overfishing that we study during KS3. Following a visit to the Sea Life Centre, students will go to **Covent Garden** and then be taken onboard a **River Thames 45 minute Circular River cruise**, exploring London by boat. Due to expected high demand for this trip, we will be running this trip on both Monday 2nd October 2023 and Tuesday 3rd October 2023. Fifty students will attend on each day.

The trip will take place on either Monday 2nd October 2023 **or** Tuesday 3rd October 2023. **The cost will be £40 per student.** This is to cover the coach hire and the tickets for the Sea Life Centre and Thames River cruise. Students will be supervised by members of the Geography Department at all times.

**All students will require a packed lunch and a water bottle.** If your child is entitled to a free school lunch, this will be provided for them.

Students will be representing the school on this trip so the highest standards of behaviour will be expected. **Students are required to wear full school uniform. Due to the timing and nature of the trip, it is extremely important that students bring warm/waterproof clothing.**

The coach will leave Wildern School promptly at 7.30am and will return by coach at approximately 7.00pm. **We ask your child to be at school at 7:15am to meet the coach.**

Please complete the parental agreement form online through your Parentpay account to give consent for your child to attend this trip. You will be asked to provide your emergency contact details and any relevant medical information. If a deposit, or full payment, is required this will also need to be paid at the time. If you have not already activated your Parentpay account and require your login details please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Office at [finance@wildern.org](mailto:finance@wildern.org).

If you have been notified that we as a school receive Pupil Premium funding for your child, the cost of this trip will be covered. If this is the case, your Parentpay account will automatically reflect this but please complete the consent, emergency contact information and medical details through Parentpay as usual. The same procedures regarding oversubscription for the trip will apply.

**If you would like your child to attend please complete the online Parentpay medical and consent section accompanied by a payment of £40.00 by Monday 18 September 2023.**

There are **100 places in total**, over the two days, for this trip. If your child is successful, they will be **allocated** a day (**either Monday 2nd October or Tuesday 3rd October 2023**).

In the event of oversubscription we will endeavour to take into consideration any students who may have missed out on trips previously due to oversubscription, and will allocate any further places by drawing names out of a hat. In the event of a place not being allocated, any monies received will be returned.

When taking a trip we take as many students as possible within the constraints we are bound by. We have to consider venue restrictions, travel arrangements and the impact on the rest of the school when staff are taken out of their curriculum areas to support a trip. Staff running and supporting our school trips often do this outside of their working hours and do so voluntarily. As a school we work extremely hard to get this balance right for all parties involved.

Photographs and updates from this trip will be put on the Schools 'Wildern Trip' accounts: [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)

**Teachers accompanying trips carry enormous responsibility for the students in their care. The Senior Leadership Team reserve the right to withdraw students from the trip at any time should a student's attitude or behaviour not meet our expectations as a school. The Senior Leadership team will also consider whether allowing a student on a trip will cause concern with regards to safeguarding for them, other students or staff, and will make a decision based on this should it be necessary.**

Yours sincerely

**Mr T Ware**  
Teacher of Geography