



Rossall School,  
Broadway,  
Fleetwood,  
Lancashire.  
FY7 8JW

Tel: 01253 774240  
mob: 079 324 39495  
Fax: 01253 772052  
rossallms@googlemail.com

7 October, 2008

**Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition training (Bronze) to Bispham Hall, Billinge**

Dear Parents of Year 9,

I am pleased to inform you that Expedition training this year will take place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October (Girls) and Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October (Boys). This is an opportunity to develop skills of expedition planning and navigation prior to the Duke of Edinburgh assessed camp in June. It also forms part of the CCF training and coincides with Field Day.

Due to the possibility of harsh weather, we have booked the bunk barn accommodation at the Bispham Hall Scout Centre, The charge will be £15 for the overnight stay including accommodation and transport, and this will be added to the next fee invoice. Visit the centre at [www.bisphamhall.org.uk](http://www.bisphamhall.org.uk)

The Year 9 girls will leave school at 4.15pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October, returning on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 4pm. The boys will leave at 4pm on Friday, returning by 4pm on Saturday. The boys will attend school as normal on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October, and they will have lessons. They should bring their normal books and equipment to school. Pupils may come to school dressed in their outdoor, expedition clothes on their day of departure.

(Note: There is also an Under 14 boys football match on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 4pm)

The aim of the two days is to bring the pupils up to the standard needed to take part in the assessed expedition (Silverdale, June 2009), and to train them in route planning, navigation and campcraft. We may well be camping, weather permitting, and we will be cooking outside. Participants will need to bring a sleeping bag, a rucksack and a lunch snack. A full equipment list is provided, and most items, including bedrolls, sleeping bags, rucksacks and tents are available on loan from our outdoor pursuits store, free of charge.. Groups will need to plan and bring suitable food for expedition cooking. Packed bags should be no more than 12Kg in mass. Writing materials will be needed for the classroom sessions at the scout camp. We will be hiking in the Billinge-Parbold area, so suitable tough footwear is essential..

Yours faithfully,

Ken Sullivan ,  
Head of Middle School

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Please detach and return to Mr Sullivan:

I give permission for ..... to attend the **Expedition Training**.  
I agree to the charging of £15 to the next school bill. Any relevant medical conditions are listed and explained overleaf.

Signed..... Date.....