

FROM THE DEPUTY HEAD PASTORAL
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TONBRIDGE
SCHOOL

25th September 2020

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to confirm we will be offering a fifteen-night programme during the October half-term within our boarding accommodation for boys who are unable to return home, stay with family, a friend's family or their guardians within the UK. The programme will comply with all Government Coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance and therefore may be subject to changes/adaptations as directed.

The programme is designed to be recreationally-based, with no structured lessons or tuition, to give boys the opportunity to rest, relax and recharge, but with the free time to study and pursue other interests. Novi and Second year boys will be recommended to attend daily sessions whilst the Third Year and Sixth Form may opt out of activities and use the Smythe Library for study if they wish. Boys will be kept in their year-group-based household bubbles throughout the programme, both in the Houses and for activities.

The programme of activities currently planned includes fun Maths and Science sessions, Music workshops, theatre activities, tennis & basketball tournaments, chocolate making, pumpkin carving as well as a gaming tournament in the fabulous Barton Science Centre Atrium. Excursions will be optional, subject to availability and at an additional cost. All will be by coach or minibus in small groups, and we are currently looking into trips to Thorpe Park, Bedgebury Pinetum (cycling and Go Ape), Groombridge Place, Bowlplex and a Kent Coastal visit. We are discussing options with the boys via the Overseas Committee to get the right mix.

A timetable of the final activities will be available for boys to book the relevant sessions they wish to attend, and parents will be asked to complete a consent form to confirm places on excursions. In addition to all these options there will be daily access to the Smythe Library, music practice rooms and the TSC with use of the various facilities, i.e. the Basketball court.

- Accommodation will be in 3 of our boarding Houses keeping boys within a year-group-household. Rooms will be single occupancy (most will not be in their regular House). Assistance with moving possessions will be provided on Saturday 17th October, where boys will be expected to take anything they need with them, as there will be no access to their regular House during the half-term programme. Boys will return to their regular House on the morning of Sunday 1st November.
- Laundry service and bedding will be provided as in term-time with boys using their own duvet and pillow.
- Welfare staff consisting of Matrons, Housemasters and Tutors, will be staying in the boarding House with students throughout the programme. Social distancing between different household bubbles in the larger areas, i.e. dining room, TV room and games room, will be required.

- Daily cleaning will be provided and students will be required to vacate the House to enable this to take place between 10am – 1pm each day, which will coincide with many of the activities planned.
- All meals will be provided at the Orchard Centre with continental breakfast served from 8:30-9:30am, a hot lunch option at 1pm & a 6pm evening meal. There will also be takeout nights as well as a Pizza & Paella night with specialist chefs cooking.
- Liaison for parents will be Barbara Pring who will be on hand throughout the programme.
- Medical provision will be available 24-hours a day throughout the programme, with temperatures being taken daily as in term-time.
- Cost, as previously advised, will be in the region of £80-100 per night plus excursion costs.

Places must be reserved by Wednesday 7th October by emailing Emma Day, the School Administrator on schooladmin@tonbridge-school.org

With very best wishes,

