Dear Parent/Carer

Y9 Big Picture Day Thursday 20th October

Risky World Challenge and Outdoor Adventure

The Geography Department and PE Faculty are organising a day of activities for all Year 9 students. Your son/daughter will take part in a Risky World Challenge in one half of the day and a PE Outdoor Adventure Activity for the other half of the day. Students will be informed of the groups they will be in for the morning and afternoon sessions.

Details of the different activities are given below. Please note that school uniform does NOT need to be worn on the day. Students should come to school in the morning with clothing appropriate for the activities (see below). The canteen is available for lunch for all students. It would be advisable to also bring a drink and possibly a snack in a rucksack to take to the activity areas.

Risky World Challenge – half day

The Risky World challenge complements the work students are completing in Geography this half-term on the theme of ‘Wild Weather’. It also aims to show students how studying Geography helps them to understand important world events and how, as global citizens, we can help others. We are fortunate that representatives from Harrogate Brigantes Rotary Club, who support ShelterBox - an international disaster relief charity - will be joining us for the day to talk to students about the charity’s work and show them a ShelterBox.

During part of the challenge students will be working outside on the school field, whatever the weather. In any case, the task will involve the use of water so they may get wet. Students must be properly equipped for the event with:

- Clothing that will be warm enough for working outside and which will not be ruined if they get wet.
- Footwear in which they can work on the field (this is often very muddy).
- A waterproof jacket (and trousers if they have them). As we will be working outside regardless of weather conditions this is essential.
- Spare clothes they can change into in case they get wet.

In order to support ShelterBox we would like raise £590 to buy a box which will be sent around the world to help families who have lost everything following disasters. The boxes contain items including a tent, stove, blankets and tools. If all students make a contribution of £3 we will be able to do this. In previous years students have contributed towards boxes which helped people following flooding and a hurricane. Further details about the charity and its work can be found at: http://www.shelterbox.org/.

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**PE – Climbing & Outdoor Adventure Activities – half day**

Students will have a choice of activities. They can either choose to attend **Harrogate Climbing Centre** and take part in climbing activities or remain at school to take part in an alternative programme. For those attending the Harrogate Climbing Centre we will be traveling via coach to Hornbeam Park as a school group. The morning session will depart school at 9am and return approximately 12noon and the afternoon session will depart school at 1pm and return to school for 3.30pm.

Due to the nature of such activities we demand a high standard of behaviour from students at all times and any student who does not adhere to these standards will be removed from activities immediately. It is very important to wear clothing that is suitable to climb in, tracksuits, joggers or equivalent should be worn with training shoes. Jeans, tight trousers, UGG boots, shoes or high heels are not appropriate. If your son/daughter is not suitably dressed for the activity then unfortunately they will not be able to take part.

The **combined cost** of the Climbing Activities (£8) and suggested donation (£3) to ShelterBox is **£11**. We hope that students will have a very worthwhile day that they will enjoy and which will also benefit others less fortunate. Please pay online by going to [www.harrogategrammar.co.uk](http://www.harrogategrammar.co.uk) The **DEADLINE** to make this payment is **FRIDAY 14th October**. If making this payment is problematic please contact Year 9 Manager, Mrs Ellenthorpe.

Please note that the emergency contact and medical details on the school database will be used for this trip. If you believe that any of these details may not be up-to-date please contact the data office. The insurance cover will be provided by the school insurance policy. Details are available upon request. Please note that by paying online you are confirming that you have read the information and agree to his/her participation in climbing and bouldering activities.

**IMPORTANT**: If you do not wish your son/daughter to attend the Climbing Centre and remain in school then no action is required as failure to make the payment deadline of FRIDAY 14th OCTOBER will automatically result in them staying at school, however, it would be very much appreciated if you could still bring a donation of £3 for the contribution to the Shelterbox charity. The activities they are likely to be taking part in at school will be orienteering and problem solving tasks, however, these will be confirmed once pupil numbers are known.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Brown  
Trip Leader

Mrs J Duckworth  
Programme Leader, Geography