

04 May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

KS3 Hay Festival visit– Friday 26th May 2023

The whole of years 8 and 9 will be travelling with us to the Hay Festival on Friday 26th May to take part in the Hay Festival's Schools' Programme, where Young Adult writers will be discussing their creative inspiration and latest works with students from across the country. Our students will get to see some exciting authors such as Joseph Coelho, Anthony Mc Gowan, and Patrice Lawrence, whose books are in hot demand in the school library, as well as others, such as Laura Dockrill and Tim Harford. The event promises, as ever, to be an inspirational day!

We will leave school at 9.00 am and return in time for students to catch their normal school buses. Students should wear school uniform (including a waterproof coat, or sun cream and hat depending on the weather forecast) and a packed lunch and drink. They might also wish to bring some spending money, as the bookstalls are very tempting! Students in receipt of Free School Meals will be provided with a packed lunch.

The costs for the events are met by the Hay Festival, but transporting our students to Hay-on-Wye and back unfortunately costs a lot of money – and is an expense that has grown year on year. Much of this expenditure has been subsidised, yet transporting so many students means that we need to ask for contributions of £4.50 from each student, which should be paid on Parent Pay by **Friday 19th May**.

In order to fulfil our safeguarding obligations, ALL students will come to school first and travel to the Festival and back in our coaches, returning to their homes on their normal school bus. Please do not ask for any changes to these arrangements; I apologise for any inconvenience they may cause, but I am sure that you will agree that the safety of our students is paramount.

Please be aware that we expect a good standard of behaviour and/or attendance on the run up to the trip and we reserve the right to withdraw students from it if we feel these expectations are not being met. No monies already paid will be refunded.

Every year students have a fantastic time at the festival and reignite their enjoyment of reading. Having shared the authors at the festival this year with KS3, they are really excited to see them.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Sandra McMaster
English Teacher and Trip Co-ordinator.