



12 June 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

Sports Day, Year 7 Sports and STEAM Day and Future Pathways 2023 – Wednesday 12 July 2023

Sports Day is taking place at Palmer Park Stadium on Wednesday 12 July. We are excited about returning to this venue for sports day as it provides the competitors with a top-class track and field arena, which can only enhance their performance. This year track and field events have been organised for students in Years 8 to 10. All students in Years **8, 9 and 10** are expected to attend all day as spectators.

Students in **Year 7** will be taking part in a Sports and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) Day. The coaching company, uSports, will come in a spend half the day doing sports that students do not always get the opportunity to try out (e.g., Ultimate Frisbee, Lacrosse, Danish Longball and Quidditch). During the sport sessions they will be focussing on team skills and working together to achieve common goals. Students will be spending a large part of the day outside if the weather permits, we ask that for this day they wear their school PE kit (they are welcome to bring a spare top to change into after the sports session) and bring sunscreen, hat and plenty of water. The STEAM sessions, which will be partly hosted by partners from local businesses, will include a variety of interactive activities that will allow students to explore potential career pathways, for which there is a current skills gap in the Berkshire and Thames Valley area.

Year 7 students will participate in a sports day event on site on Friday 23 June, unfortunately Palmer Park is a not large enough to accommodate Years 7-10 and normally those pupils in the lower year groups would attend Sports Day and Year 10 would remain in school. However, with the pandemic and refurbishment of Palmer Park, students in Year 10 have not had the opportunity to compete there and so we feel it is important to give them this opportunity. This plan will now remain in place moving forwards so all students will have 3 years of track and field events at Palmer Park.

Year 12 students Future Pathways day has a range of activities looking at options post sixth form and where they can find further information.

The school canteen will be open for Years 7 and 12 students as usual and they will be given their timetable during tutor.

Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 should make their own way to the stadium, instead of coming to school. All spectators will be expected to be in full school uniform, or they can wear house colours.

The arrangements for the day are as follows:

- 9:15 am** Competitors should arrive at the stadium.
- 9:30am** Years 8, 9 and 10 register inside the stadium.
- 2:20pm** Finish. Students make their own way home from the stadium.

We will use the medical information and emergency contact details that you have provided for us. Should there be any changes to these details, please can you notify the school in writing by Monday 10 July.

Competitors should arrive dressed in their physical education kit or house coloured T-shirt ready for their event(s). There will be time for them to perform suitable warm up exercises. Students should bring a **packed lunch and plenty to drink, a tracksuit (or other suitable warm clothing) as well as wet weather clothing**. We would also recommend **sunscreen and a hat** to protect them from the sun.

Spectators should bring a **packed lunch** and be prepared for all weathers as above. Please be aware that the car park at Palmer Park stadium can get very congested; therefore, please allow plenty of time to exit the car park.

If Sports Day has to be cancelled due to a circumstance outside of the school's control, for example inclement weather, please check on the school website for updates. If Sports Day does have to be cancelled, students should report to school at the normal time with the appropriate books and equipment for a normal school day. They should, however, bring their packed lunch as the school canteen will be closed to them.

We hope that we will have an enjoyable day with excellent performances.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Gibson', with a flourish at the end.

Mr P Gibson

Headteacher