



the **GREENROOM** school



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Thursday 22 April 2021

GR6 Offsite Challenges: "Walbury Hill"

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enter the Summer Term and look forward to spending more time outside and being a bit less sedentary, we have launched our Offsite Challenges each Tuesday. We kicked off this new slot on the timetable with a walk along the Thames Path from The Swan in Clewer to the ancient St Mary Magdalene's Church in Boveney. The current building dates from the 12th century, although there has been a church on the site since before the Normans arrived! The walk was a great success, and we even managed to clear some rubbish from the river in the form of a discarded bike!

Next Tuesday, 27 April, we plan to scale new heights, but in a similar vein. We want to 'bag' a hill. Not just any hill though, the highest point in Berkshire: Walbury Hill. This 297m-high peak lies within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is the highest natural point in South East England. On the hill's summit is the Iron Age hill fort of Walbury Camp and the summit is marked by a triangulation point, or 'trig point'. These pillars are fascinating in themselves, and during the trip we will be learning how they were once used to map our country before GPS, and how they sit within today's healthy and fun subculture of hill bagging.

We plan to visit this lovely part of the world within the school day, so there is no need to change transport arrangements. The walk is not difficult and within all of our students' abilities - in fact, there is a car park very close to the summit!

All they need to bring is a waterproof layer and some sensible shoes for a short walk. Trainers should be fine. We have some spare warm coats which we can bring if needed. Packed lunches will be provided. This will be a free trip, and it is unlikely that spending money will be required.

Students may be timetabled for GCSE resit classes on the afternoon of their trip. If this is the case, the class teacher will make arrangements for them to access the classwork on their Google Classrooms for completion in their own time.

We hope that visiting Walbury Hill will be a wonderful experience, and help foster an appreciation of the great outdoors in your young person as well as help build physical fitness and Resilience, as part of their ROCCIT programme.

If you have any concerns, please let us know.

Stay safe and kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard Allen'.

Richard Allen
Head of School

Start a path.