

Tuesday, 02 May 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 5 Open Day – Thursday 6th July 2017

Great Torrington School would like to extend a warm welcome to all our prospective Year 5 pupils and invite you to attend our Year 5 Open Day. The day will provide an opportunity for pupils to become familiar with our caring, high performing school and staff, and give them a taste of what GTS has to offer.

All pupils at GTS, regardless of their ability, thrive. We are delighted to have been awarded the Educational Outcomes Award for 2014 and 2015 for our pupils achieving GCSE results in the top 10% of schools nationally. In 2016 we won the Department for Education Pupil Premium Award for the South West region and the Department for Education Character Award for the South West region. Simply put we are a high performing school.

However, at GTS we believe that GCSE's alone do not define the talents and abilities of our pupils. Our enrichment programme is second to none and offers all pupils opportunities to excel beyond what GCSE's can offer.

This year for example, pupils have performed the school production at the Theatre Royal in Plymouth, given lectures at Exeter University, built an aeroplane, won UK indoor athletics competitions, visited 5 different countries, to mention but a few of the experiences that have truly provided stretch and challenge.

On Thursday 6th July pupils will be met by our Transition Leaders who will support, guide and mentor them throughout the day. Following a welcome from staff at GTS, pupils will be grouped and given a GTS LBacc style timetable to follow which will involve a range of lessons giving a snapshot of life at secondary school. Throughout the day a video will be made giving you the opportunity to see what your children have been getting up to during their time with us.

Arrival

We ask that pupils should arrive at the front of school between 8.50am and 9.00am where they will be met in the school dining hall by our Year 7 Transition leaders and staff.

Groups & Activities

There will be approximately 150 pupils with us for the day. They will work in groups during the day and gain an insight into a variety of subjects; these will be particularly related to the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), but will also include others such as ICT, and languages.

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Photographic Consent

We may take photographs or videos of the children during the taster day for use in printed publications, display boards or on our website or social media platforms. During the day we will produce a film to show you what your child has been doing during the day.

Lunch

Please make sure your child brings a named water bottle and snack for their break time and a pack lunch. If you are normally entitled to Free School Meals, please indicate this on your return slip and we will arrange a pack lunch for your child.

Uniform

Pupils should wear their usual school uniform and we will issue them with a name badge. Please bring in a pair of trainers for the afternoons sporting activities.

Pupil Information Form

Please return the visiting pupil registration form to help us provide a safe and enjoyable day for your child and to give us contact details in case we need to contact you during the day.

Invite to Parents to attend in the afternoon

If parents / carers would like to watch the video and join us for some refreshments, please arrive at 2.00pm and park in the rear car park on Hatchmoor Road where you will be escorted to the Drama Studio. You will then have an opportunity to watch your children finish the day with a sports festival.

If you are unable to join us at 2.00pm, please collect your children from the Dining Hall (access from the fire exit door, to the left of reception) at **3.00pm**. If you wish to give permission for your child to walk home unaccompanied or leave with a sibling, please indicate below.

Please return your form to Great Torrington School reception by Friday 30th June and advise your primary school of your child's absence.

We are really looking forward to meeting up on Thursday 6th July and will do all we can to ensure your child has a good day.

Yours faithfully

Helen V. Whiterod



Mrs H Whiterod

Mr A Bloodworth

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