



Dear Parents/Carers

7<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## **Year 9 - 'Tall Ships Challenger' Voyage – Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June to Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020**

Through the 'Tall Ships Youth Trust', The Piggott School is planning an exciting sailing opportunity for ten Year 9 students. The students will spend 5 days aboard a Challenger Yacht exploring the UK's South Coast. The voyage will start and finish in Portsmouth (Gunwharf Quays). Students will become members of the yacht's working crew so it will be great fun but no easy ride!

The voyage promises to be a unique and memorable experience. The challenge of crewing a Tall Ships Challenger will present personal development opportunities that will prove invaluable in life. Students will get involved in all aspects of sailing the yacht. This will include stowing and handling sails, helming, working in the galley and scrubbing the decks! Students will be split into watches and will then work together to sail the yacht. Please visit [tallships.org](http://tallships.org) for more information and videos.

Parents will be responsible for transporting their children to and from Portsmouth (Gunwharf Quays). All meals will be included on board the Challenger Yacht. The voluntary contribution required for the trip to take place will be **£395**. A non-refundable deposit of £95 will be due upon offer of place. The remainder may then be paid in instalments, or as a lump sum, with the final balance being settled by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May.

If you would like your child to be considered for this trip, please register your interest as soon as possible, by completing the reply slip below. **All reply slips MUST be returned by Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January.**

This is an incredibly exciting opportunity and with only 10 places available, we do expect there to be considerable interest. As a result of this we are asking students to write a short paragraph explaining why they would like the opportunity to take part and what they feel they might get out of the experience.

When selecting places we also need to take the sleeping arrangements aboard the yacht into account. This means that we need to select **either** an equal number of boys and girls **or** a single-sex crew, depending on the mix and volume of applications received. The decision about which students to select will be made by the Year 9 pastoral team, with the Head of Year's decision being final. If your child is selected you will receive a letter confirming a place and asking for the deposit of £95.

Pupils in receipt of free school meals are eligible for funding on this activity. If your son/daughter is in receipt of pupil premium, the school may be able to support with the funding of the trip should you require financial assistance. Please contact me for further details. In the meantime, please ensure you complete and send in the 'Registration of Interest' slip by Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January so that your child's application can be considered.

An information meeting for all parents and students will be held prior to the departure of the trip. **Please note that no previous sailing experience is required for this trip.**

If your child is interested in applying for a place on this unique sailing adventure, please respond as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Romany Greatrex  
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