



10 November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 10 'Tall Ships Youth Challenge' – Wednesday 12th to Sunday 16th July 2023

Through the 'Tall Ships Youth Trust', The Piggott School is planning an exciting sailing opportunity for 20 Year 10 students. A presentation was delivered to Year 10 in assembly this morning.

Selected students will spend 5 days aboard a Challenger Yacht, exploring the UK's South Coast. We have 2 yachts reserved and there will be 10 students on each yacht. The voyage will start and finish in Portsmouth (Gunwharf Quays). Students will become full members of each 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 coming together as a team and crewing a yacht presents personal development opportunities that will prove invaluable in life. Students get involved in all aspects of sailing. This includes stowing and hoisting sails, helming, working in the galley, night navigation and scrubbing the decks! Students will be split into watches and will work together to sail the yacht. All meals are included on board the Challenger Yacht, and students will be required to help with their preparation. Please visit tallships.org for more information. There are several videos on the website which give a good flavour of what's in store.

This is an incredibly exciting opportunity and with only 20 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. We are not necessarily looking for expert sailors or experienced 'outdoorsy' types, rather we will be looking for the students who we feel will benefit most in their personal development from this unique opportunity. We do ask that students write this part of the application themselves.

If your child would like to be considered for this trip, please register their interest as soon as possible by completing the Application Form attached (paper copies are available on request). Due to the popularity of this trip, **all applications MUST be returned by Wednesday 23rd November** to ensure a fair selection process. Late applications may only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

When selecting places, we also need to take the sleeping arrangements aboard the yacht into account. This means that for each yacht 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 10 pastoral team, with the Head of Year's decision being final.

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This trip has been generously subsidised by a Tall Ships Youth Trust bursary grant, and so the cost of the trip is **£395** per student which covers all meals on board, accommodation, instruction, insurance, and administration. This represents extremely good value for money for a residential sailing experience.

Should your child be selected for a place on the trip, a deposit of **£100** will be requested to confirm acceptance of the place. The remaining balance should then be paid in instalments as follows: £150 by 28th February and the final balance of £145 being cleared by 31st March 2023. *Please note that should your child subsequently choose to withdraw from the trip, any monies paid can only be refunded if we are able to fill their place. Our insurance will cover cancellation due to certain reasons such as illness, where evidence is available. We are insured under the Department for Education's Risk Protection Arrangement, the details of which can be found here: [RPA Membership Rules](#)*

If your child is in receipt of free school meals or pupil premium, or if the cost or timings of payments would present a barrier to your child's participation, the school may be able to assist – please contact me if you wish to request support. In the meantime, please ensure you still send in the completed Application Form by **Wednesday 23rd November** so that your child's application can be put forward for consideration.

No previous sailing experience is required for this trip. An information meeting for parents will be held prior to departure. Please note that parents will be responsible for transporting their children to and from Portsmouth (Gunwharf Quays).

If your child would like to apply for a place on this unique sailing adventure, please respond as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Romany Greatrex

Trips, Partnerships and Community Administrator - trips@piggottschool.org

