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3rd June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Archaeology Field School, Chester House Estate – 1st July 2024

The History Department are delighted to offer our Year 8 students an opportunity to take part in a day visit to Chester House Estate in Northamptonshire on Monday 1st July. The venue is a unique heritage site with evidence of human habitation from the Ice Age to the present day: <https://chesterhouseestate.org/>

For several years, archaeologists from the University of Leicester have been excavating the Roman town of Irchester (situated on Chester House Estate) and history students from the Meridian Trust have been invited to take part in this summer's archaeology field school. This is a very exciting opportunity for our Meridian Trust historians, as they will be able to experience a live excavation of a late Iron Age and Roman settlement alongside professional archaeologists. They will also be able to find out how archaeological finds are used to piece together stories about the past and how finds are cleaned, processed and preserved working with the Lead Curator at the state-of-the-art Archaeological Resource Centre which houses all of Northamptonshire's archaeological finds.

The event will take place on Monday 1st July 2024 for 130 Year 8 students from across the Meridian Trust family of school, including 13 from Ely College.

Key information:

- Students will be leaving Ely College at 08:15 and arriving back at approximately 15:45. Selected students would need to be in school for 08:00 ready to be registered so we can make a prompt departure.
- We will be travelling via the school minibus.
- Students do not need to wear school uniform but must wear appropriate clothing and shoes that they do not mind getting wet or dirty. Dependent on weather, they will need raincoats and/or hats and sunscreen.
- Students must bring a packed lunch and water bottle.
- The day is completely free of charge for all students invited to take part, but they may wish to bring money to spend in the café or gift shop on-site.

We only have capacity for 13 places and we expect demand to outweigh capacity. Therefore if your child is interested in attending this trip, please complete the expression of interest via WisePay by **Friday 14th June**. Students who are successful in the subsequent lottery will be informed, with other students placed onto a waiting list.

Yours faithfully

R. Perkins

Mr Ross Perkins
Head of History



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