



25 January 2017

RE: BIOLOGY IB FIELDWORK EXPEDITION – ZHEJIANG PROVINCE, 25 - 27 MARCH 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

Thank you very much for sending the deposit of 500 RMB into school with your son or daughter for the Biology IB fieldwork expedition. As the total cost of the visit will be 1700 RMB, the balance of 1200 RMB is now due. Can you ensure the money is paid at the school Uniform Shop no later than **Friday 17 February**.

I will be meeting with the students prior to the fieldtrip taking place so that they are fully aware of what we hope to achieve in terms of ecological sampling whilst we are away. In the meantime, it would be helpful to make sure all students have appropriate clothing and footwear to endure several hours outdoors. They will need suitable footwear for the moderate hiking that we will need to do in order to get to some parts of the river. This will be less than 2 hours on the 2nd day and less than 1 hour on the 1st and 3rd day. Additionally they will need waterproof clothing to take part in the study of the invertebrates living in the river. I have included a full kit list at the end of this letter.

In addition, please ensure that your son/daughter's passport has at least 6 months left before expiry and that it is the same travel document submitted with the deposit in December. If there have been any changes, please let me know.

Finally, a reminder that students will depart on Saturday 25 March and return on Monday 27 March. Exact timings will be given nearer the time.

Again, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Amy Chadderton
Biology Teacher



BIOLOGY IB FIELDWORK EXPEDITION KIT LIST 2017

In Zhejiang Province the spring climate is similar to Shanghai and a good mixture of warm and wet weather clothing is necessary to ensure that you are properly clothed at all times. The temperatures in March typically range from 5 to 10 degrees Celsius. Please follow the weather forecast in the weeks prior to our departure.

Clothing

- 3 T-shirts (synthetic is preferable as it dries quicker and wicks moisture away from the body)
- 1 sweatshirt/synthetic fleece jacket (synthetic materials insulate even when wet)
- 1 waterproof outer shell jacket with hood
- 1 pair waterproof trousers
- 2 pair trousers (synthetic, quick dry NOT cotton or jeans)
- 3 changes underwear
- 3 pair socks
- 1 hat and gloves
- 1 pair hiking shoes (will get dirty)
- 1 pair sandals/closed toe water shoes – not flip flops
- 1 pair trainers (not to be worn during fieldwork)
- 1 pair Wellington boots (locations may have deep mud)

This is a suggested packing list for your trip and should be taken to be the minimum kit required. Depending on weather conditions and personal preferences, you may wish to bring more of specific items. **As a general rule please do not bring any clothing that you couldn't bear to see damaged.**

Miscellaneous

- 1 travel bag (a backpack is much preferable to a suitcase)
- 1 daypack (30-litre backpack to carry water and extra clothes while working in the field.)
- Small towel
- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Special toiletries
- Extra contact lenses/glasses as required
- Extra medication (if needed – can be kept by chaperone)
- 1 small bottle mosquito repellent
- 1 torch
- One 1L re-usable water bottle
- Hard backed notebook, pen, pencil, rubber and calculator, plus a re-sealable plastic bag to keep them in.
- Laptop for completing data analysis and practical reports (student's own responsibility)
- 1 small folding umbrella
- Plasters & hand sanitizer
- Spending money - no more than 400 RMB recommended

Please use this checklist to best prepare for your trip. While it is important to have most of these items, it is equally important not to be burdened with an exorbitant amount of luggage. The students are responsible for their own kit on the trip including any other additional items they may choose to bring with them.