

19th May 2017



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Dear Parent/Carer

Balloon Club Launch Trip, 17th & 18th June

The time for the maiden launch of the Breadalbane Academy High Altitude Balloon project has arrived. After much consideration of launch locations I have decided that the best option to safeguard the return of our payload will require a launch near Leicester in the South of England on Sunday the 18th June. While a launch in Scotland would be possible, the chances of losing contact on a first attempt are not insignificant. Given the time, effort and expense that has gone into this project I feel that we require the support of other balloon enthusiasts who will track our flight and help download any data and images produced.

I intend leaving from outside the Red Brolly in Ballinluig at 9am, arriving in Leicester at around 4pm. We will spend the evening preparing the payload and will launch early the next morning. We will be hosted on Saturday evening by a relative of one of the Balloon Club members, their home will also be used as a base for tracking the payload and I will be present at all times. The launch, landing and retrieval should take about 5 hours, after which we will return home, arriving at the Red Brolly no later than 10pm. This includes a small contingency for late (or non) retrieval of the payload so I will keep you advised of our eta by phone should we leave earlier than expected.

The cost of the trip is £42 and includes the cost of accommodation and all travel. There is a possibility that the school may be able to subsidise the cost, I will advise you of this in due course. Meals are not included in the price, breakfast is available at £8.99 (free to U16's) and your child should bring a packed lunch for the drive on Saturday.

Your child will be staying in a twin room adjacent to Mr Blair's in The Premier Inn, Forest East in Leicester. I will leave contact details for the hotel and myself in the event that you may need to contact your child.

Items your child will need to bring are-

- A conservative budget for dinner on Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday
- Packed lunch for the Saturday
- Walking shoes/sensible outdoor footwear & waterproofs
- Overnight bag with toiletries, pyjamas and change of clothes

In order for me to begin planning, can I please ask that you return the consent form attached by Monday 22nd May.

If you have any further question regarding the trip, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office on 01887 822300.

Yours faithfully

Stuart Blair
Teacher of Physics

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stuart Blair'.

