



# THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL

## A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

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Headteacher: Mr A McGinnes

10 September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you to inform you of an exciting opportunity that we are offering students who will be starting their Year 11 journey in Science as 'excellent students'. Regardless of prior attainment or effort, we recognise that each year is a fresh start for our students and we would like to help them re-engage, or indeed, grow their passion in Science. To do this, we are running a trip to The Natural History Museum in London in October.

As part of the day, the students will be taken on a 'behind-the-scenes' tour where they will see some of the 22 million species preserved in spirit at the museum. They will also be able to meet working scientists and talk to them about their careers and, of course, they'll be able to explore the museum itself. The trip comes at a time when students will have just come to the end of their 'Inheritance, Variation & Evolution' unit and so, will be able to see how the discoveries in the museum have shaped our knowledge of the world around us.

I hope you can understand our excitement in being able to offer this trip and will use it to encourage your child to be the best student that they can be in and out of their Science lessons. We will be expecting students to be getting involved in class discussions; completing all work in lesson; asking questions when at a loss; completing homework on time; etc. I speak on behalf of everyone in the department when I say that, being '*the best student they can be*' does not always mean that grades need to be high. Some students have strengths in other areas and we recognise that; all we ask is that they try their best in everything that they do and not give up at the first hurdle (or even the second or third).

As previously mentioned, the trip will take place in October (date to be confirmed), before the end of the first half term and will cost **£21** (this includes entry into the private exhibits and talks, transport and insurance). If you have any concerns regarding affordability, please contact the school and we can discuss it with you; all students deserve to be rewarded for high efforts.

As this trip is to encourage a good start to the year, there are limited places and these will be offered to students who we feel have been exceptional in these first few weeks. I will be writing to those students before the end of September, to offer them a place. Students who do not receive an invitation should not be discouraged and should continue to try their best throughout the year, seeking help when necessary. We intend to run another rewards trip after Christmas, at which point, students will be offered another 'fresh start' with regard to their behaviour and effort. By working together, we hope that your children will be part of our 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive improved set of results in Science in Summer 2019.

I look forward to seeing what this year has to bring and to the excellent start I know the students are capable of.

Yours faithfully,

Miss R Branson  
Assistant Headteacher – Data & Curriculum Leader, Science

