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25 June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Cancellation of Year 7 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo**

We are writing to confirm the arrangements for the Activities Week for our Year 7 students.

As you are aware, in the last fortnight, we have experienced a significant rise in cases of COVID-19 at Rosebery School and currently we have a large number of students working remotely, some of whom have also been asked to self-isolate as a result of close contact with a student who has tested positive from our school and/or the local community. This has understandably caused increased anxiety among students, parents and staff about some of the planned activities for the end of term, which has rightly forced us to re-evaluate our plans.

There are two principal challenges with our Activities Week arrangements; transport and timing. All of the planned trips, including the trip to Whipsnade Zoo, require coach travel. The guidance is clear that everybody on a coach would be regarded as a close contact and, therefore, be required to self-isolate should someone on that coach test positive in the subsequent few days. Secondly, given that these trips are scheduled at the end of the year, there is considerable concern that students and staff members would therefore be at risk of missing out on important and costly holiday plans, either because they had to self-isolate, either as a close contact, or because they themselves have contracted COVID-19.

Therefore, very reluctantly, we have made the decision to cancel some of the activities that were due to take place during Activities Week so that we can mitigate this risk and try to protect our students and staff at this very challenging time. Therefore, by the end of next week, all parents and carers will have been refunded for the payments you have made for the trip to Whipsnade Zoo. Once actioned this should reach your bank account within 3-5 working days. Please contact the Administration office if there are any issues, or if you have any questions regarding your refund.

Whilst we are very sorry and disappointed that this, and other events, are cancelled, we are delighted that, weather permitting, our Sports Day, which was rained off in 2019 and then cancelled in 2020, will take place on Tuesday 13 July 2021. Sadly, parents/carers are unable to attend this event because of COVID restrictions, but we are very much looking forward to having all our students in Years 7-10 at the Harrier Centre on that day, for a day of fantastic sporting endeavour. More details about this event will be published in due course in Rosebery News, along with confirmation of the end of term timings and arrangements.

**Head of School: Mr D Lach BA (Hons) NPQH    Executive Headteacher: Ms R Allen MA NPQH**

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Whilst this particular trip has been cancelled, please be assured that we are looking very carefully at how we can ensure that enrichment activities, including trips, will form part of the Year 8 student experience next year.

Yours sincerely



David Lach  
Head of School



Ros Allen  
Executive Headteacher

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