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HEAD TEACHER

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Dear Parent/Carer

NBHS will soon be re-launching the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Our aim is to offer the Bronze Award to current S2 learners, with them working through and completing all sections while in S3. There are four sections of The Award: Skills, Volunteering, Physical and Expedition. All sections must be completed to gain the overall Bronze Award; however, individual section awards are also recognised for those unable to complete the whole award.

For staffing and logistical reasons, we are limiting the number of expedition places to 28. If there are more learners than this interested then names will be pulled out of a hat and those unable to join in the expedition can complete the other three sections and get these recognised. There will be a waiting list created too.

The Award was launched with the S2 cohort in an assembly before the Easter holiday, and we are now looking for names of interested learners, along with a £19 non-refundable deposit which will go to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award office for the registration fee. Everyone will then be registered with eDofE (the online log book) to start their skills, volunteering and physical sections. After the summer holiday we will give training on how to complete these, including sharing contacts which might be useful to get started. At Bronze level, the expectation is one hour a week on each of the three sections for three months. Beyond this, one of the sections must be completed for six months.

There are two overnight expeditions as part of the Bronze Award. A practice expedition will take place from Friday 6 to Saturday 7 October 2017 and the final assessed expedition will be from Friday 1 to Saturday 2 June 2018. These must both be completed to achieve the Award. The expedition involves planning a route beforehand, walking for a minimum of six hours activity each day, carrying all kit all day, and camping and cooking for one night. For walking expeditions, an average team might achieve a distance of between 24 - 32km / 15 - 20 miles over the two days. Training for all the skills required for a safe expedition will take place at the weekly sessions run by school staff and members of the community. The approximate combined cost of these expeditions will be £64 (although this is subject to change depending on final numbers and location of campsites etc.).

Training is compulsory for those attending the expedition. The first two training sessions will focus on eDofE and choosing a skill, volunteering and physical recreation, and how to log the work that you are doing. After this, the training will be focused for those going on expeditions and will track camp craft skills, map reading, route planning and team work exercises. The training will be on a Wednesday after school from 3:50 – 4:50 pm in the School Library (or other venues when

appropriate). Further work will need to be completed beyond this as well, particularly with route planning. The School Library will be available at lunchtimes and after school for groups to get together and make their route cards.

If your child is interested in taking part, and is able to attend training sessions each Wednesday after school during S3, then please fill in the attached form and arrange a payment of £19 by **Tuesday 20 June**. Payments can be made via East Lothian Council's secure internet payment service. This can be accessed by clicking on the Online Payments link found on the left hand side of the NBHS homepage (www.edubuzz.org/northberwickhigh) or by visiting www.eastlothian.gov.uk and clicking on PAY FOR IT. Select High School Payments from the list and fill in the form with the details. Please use the school payment reference, 'NBHS DoE'. If you would prefer, cheques can be made payable to East Lothian Council.

If you have further questions, then please get in touch via the school office, or look on The Duke of Edinburgh's Award website at www.dofe.org.

Yours faithfully



Alice Clubb
Principal Teacher of Numeracy