

6 January 2012

Letter to All Year 11 Parents

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re Year 11: This is your summer

As you are aware your child in Year 11 will leave Deer Park this summer. His/Her GCSE exams will be over by the end of June and we are looking forward to celebrating the year group's departure with them on Friday 29 June at their Leavers' Ball.

This means that your son or daughter may have nearly 2 months 'holiday' before starting work, college or joining a sixth form and in terms of their progression and future employability, it is important that they use this time wisely. However, in the current financial climate it is difficult for many 16 year olds to find part time work and therefore I am very pleased to advise you about this exciting opportunity for your son or daughter to get involved in a **free Citizenship programme** led by Young Gloucestershire over the summer.

Sponsored by the National Citizen Service, the programme includes two residential experiences, one focusing on team building and personal challenge through outdoor pursuits and the other on our local community's needs, research and the acquisition of new skills. For example, participants may have the opportunity to complete accredited courses in First Aid and Basic Food Hygiene. The group will be involved in fundraising to support a specific community project which they will then carry out. The programme concludes with a graduation ball, where they will have the opportunity to meet up with other young people participating in the programme across the South West. I attach a leaflet which contains more information about this fantastic opportunity.

To register his or her interest all your son or daughter needs to do is complete the reply slip and return it to the box in Reception at School by Friday 27 January 2012. Young Gloucestershire have indicated that if they receive sufficient interest they may be able to host the programme in Cirencester.

This programme is open to **all** pupils in Year 11, and presents opportunities to develop leadership skills, enrich CVs and, importantly, to make a difference, but places are limited.

I hope your son or daughter will consider taking part. Access to a similar Summer Citizenship project is also available through Cirencester College.

Yours sincerely

Chiquita Henson
Headteacher

Enc