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Year 10 Belonging Week 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

We are excited to share the details of the 'Learn – Lead – Serve' projects, which Year 10 students are invited to participate in during their Belonging Week. The Year 10 program will run from 19 to 23 May. Each project is designed to support specific objectives, and students are encouraged to choose from and rank their preferences based on their interests.

Year 10 students will select from a eight exciting projects taking place Monday to Thursday (19 to 22 May) They will contribute to social impact activities offered to local primary schools and will all have the opportunity to demonstrate a range of leadership skills whilst serving our local community.

The final day (23 May) will involve a whole year group trip to Oxford allowing students to immerse themselves in the rich history and culture of this iconic city. Students are likely to take part in an activity such as punting, may well visit a college and will enjoy some free time and games in the Oxford Parks with their team.

This year's program includes Cricket, Canoeing, Rowing, Science, Football, Music, Rugby, and Cooking. All projects are outlined below.

Cricket skills and coaching

A four-day program including a Cricket Leadership program delivered with our partners Berkshire Cricket. Students will spend a portion of their time each day coaching local primary school students and delivering a tournament.

Canoe leadership

The four days will develop students' skills both as a paddler, but also in terms of safety skills and leadership and they will be given the opportunity to support our Future Stories water sports program, running with primary schools over the course of the week.

Rowing

Students will have the chance to row on the Thames and support primary school students into boats and onto the water. The first two days will focus on their skills and coaching and the second two days giving back to the community.

Future Stories Science

Students will deliver science sessions to local primary schools and support young people from a range of backgrounds access practical scientific activities. Students will be involved in the planning and delivery of sessions in a hands on and practical fashion.

Football Skills and Coaching

Students will work towards their FA Level 1 Coaching Award and put their skills into action by delivering football sessions to local primary schools. It's a fantastic opportunity to gain coaching experience while making a positive impact in the community!

Music

This musical skills program offers a variety of exciting workshops likely to include a Samba percussion session, an EDM production day, and a hands-on recording and mixing experience with an expert using Logic Pro X. Students will also support instrumental activities in a local primary school students. Please note, final trip plans and preparations are underway, and there is a possibility that these students will attend a theatre production instead of the planned day trip to Oxford with the rest of the year group. The music program is slightly more expensive than others due to the theatre trip.

Rugby Skills and Coaching

This program involves a daily blend of coaching and skills development and the delivery of rugby sessions to local primary schools. It's a fantastic opportunity to enhance their coaching abilities whilst engaging younger students with a new sport.

Cooking

This hands-on experience will develop both our students cooking skills and teamwork abilities, enabling primary school students to experience the challenge of outdoor cooking.

Contributions and Financial Assistance

It is anticipated that this week of activities, training courses, transport and tips will cost no more than £75 but this will be finalised in the week ahead. Pupil premium students will not be charged and additional costs for the music program will be shared via the forms link that will go to students next week.

Under the Education Reform Act, the cost of these activities and trips is covered by voluntary contributions. While contributions are voluntary, the trip will only go ahead if the full cost is covered through these contributions. We are committed to ensuring all students can participate, so if you have any concerns regarding the financial aspect of the trip, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. We will handle any inquiries confidentially and sympathetically.

Health & Safety

As part of our Health & Safety procedures, we ask that both you and your child review the school's Code of Conduct for Educational Visits and ensure adherence during the trip. The Code of Conduct for Educational Visits will be shared shortly, and son will also need to sign up to our safeguarding policy which will support the work taking place with younger students. Both must be followed before and during the trip.

Next Steps

Costs will be provided on the Belonging Week 2025 selections form, which will be shared with your child next week. In the meantime, please take the opportunity to review the available options detailed above and discuss this with your child. Students will be invited to complete the form by no later than 7 February. Places will be

confirmed shortly afterwards, with deposit payments due by Friday, 21 February 2025. While we aim to allocate places based on the preferences of students, this may not always be possible and will depend on demand.

If you have any further questions or would like to discuss any aspect of the week, please do not hesitate to contact me at tevens@reading-school.co.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Mr T Evans
Assistant Headteacher