



**GRETTON  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**

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Headteacher: Mr Adam Sallis MEd, NASEN, NPQH

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents,

As part of our PE curriculum, we try to encourage outdoor and adventurous activities: I'm pleased to say that once again we've been able to organise a day on the river Bell Boating on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** followed by a regatta on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June** where we will compete against other schools. Please ensure your child is at school for 8.30am on this day. *We will return for 2.30pm in time for the parent open-afternoon (to look at books and outcomes in class) which is already in the calendar.*

For those of you not familiar with this activity, the bell-boat is a stable, twin-hulled craft, which seats up to 12 people in a crew who propel the boat with single-bladed paddles. All the crew wear buoyancy aids and the focus is on working as a team.

For the practice day on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May, we will travel together to Fladbury Canoe Club (WR10 2QW) where we will be met by a qualified instructor, who will be leading the activity. The children will be fully briefed before taking to the water to practise technique. They will then explore the river from Fladbury and may go through the lock gates.



The regatta on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June will take place at Evesham Rowing Club (WR11 4ST) between 9:30am and 2:30pm and will involve a series of sprint races against other schools.

The trips will both be fully funded by our School Sports Premium Grant and so there is no charge for either event.

**We are looking for a number of adult helpers to accompany us for both days. Please indicate on your reply slip if you are able to help out and if you need a place on the coach (please note we have limited availability for spaces on the coach)**

### What will the children need?

- Non-school uniform but clothing suitable for the weather i.e., plenty of layers work well (t-shirt, sweat-top, fleece, joggers or tracksuit) to allow for changes in temperature throughout the day. Jeans are **not** suitable.
- Depending on the weather/temperature, a hat and gloves or suntan lotion and a sun-hat.
- Spare clothes and a towel in one bag. In a *separate bag* (to be taken on the boat), they should have a morning/afternoon snack & a drink plus waterproofs (ideally, waterproof trousers as well).
- Packed lunch and drinks as we will be out for the full day.
- Footwear - trainers or sturdy shoes should be worn for the Bell Boating. Children should not wear wellies - they are unsuitable near deeper water.
- A book or simple card games for the regatta day as there will be a certain amount of waiting around between races.

We're sure the children will really enjoy this opportunity to challenge themselves and work as a team. Please complete and return the permission slip for this off-site activity as soon as possible, and by **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May** at the latest.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Tyler and Mr Stinchcombe (*with thanks to Mr Bridges for organising the event*).

***Please keep this letter as it contains all the essential guidance and information!***

### SAFETY AND HYGIENE ADVICE

Paddle-sport on placid water is an enjoyable and safe activity provided buoyancy aids are worn and people are aware of water hygiene. There is now a general awareness of Weil's Disease which is a **rare** illness to which water users may be exposed. The most common symptoms are: a high temperature; influenza-like illness, joint and muscle pains, particularly in the calf muscles.

Anyone falling ill with the symptoms after fishing, sailing, paddle or other water sports, particularly **within the three weeks following** the activity, **MUST** see a doctor and advise him or her of the activity taken part in.

**To prevent infection:** Cover scratches and cuts with water-proof plasters AND wash or shower after water-based activities, particularly before eating.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my child to attend and take part in the Bell Boating practice day at Fladbury on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026** and the regatta in Evesham on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (parent)

I am able to / would like to help out:

(Please tick and give name / date you can help)

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Please also state if you need a place on the coach (subject to availability)

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