



Rossall School Combined Cadet Force

Broadway, Fleetwood
FY7 8JW
01253 773235
School Staff Instructor
WO2 I. W. McCleary



Dear Parent (s),

Welcome to Rossall School Combined Cadet Force. Activities will now run after school on a **Monday** from 15:50 – 17:20 (during the winter, timings for the day may change) and is compulsory to all boys and girls from year 9 – year 10. Year 11 and sixth formers also have the opportunity to stay on with the CCF upon selection as a non-commissioned officer (NCO) and this prestigious role is a wonderful opportunity to hone skills in leadership, planning and teamwork. The CCF is voluntary in year 11 and sixth form but in sixth form, boys and girls are required to show evidence of commitment to some form of community service and CCF is one option available to them. Below are a series of points that should help answer any queries you may have. If you do have any further questions, please feel free to contact me directly by email on i.mccleary@rossall.org.uk

1. The combined cadet force is not a recruiting organisation but is partially financed by the MOD. It aims to give young people opportunities in leadership, self-reliance, adventure training and to develop both in mind and body in a way that many other school activities are unable to do.
2. Regular training **NOW** takes place on a Monday as already highlighted; the first day of training will be Monday 6th September 2010. The importance this academic year being on turnout, drill, parades and punctuality. Cadets will be expected to parade in full CCF uniform which must be cleaned and pressed, with polished footwear. If a cadet is going to miss a parade, a letter is needed from yourselves explaining the reason for their absence on the Friday prior to CCF parade.
3. **The School Colours** will be presented on the morning of the 29th June 2010 by the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire. This will be a very prestigious event in the school history as we have fought for many years with different schools about who are the oldest CCF, of which with evidence, other schools have backed down and Rossall is the oldest cadet force in the UK and the World.
4. The CCF at RS runs five Sections – Navy, Army, RAF, Band and Duke of Edinburgh (Civilian Section), and your son or daughter will undergo basic training in Year 9 before attaching to one of these at the beginning of year 10. As cadets' progress through their time at RS, more advanced training is offered, until eventually they may be selected as a non-commissioned officer and be involved in cadet training and running activities.
5. The Duke of Edinburgh award scheme can be undertaken as part of the CCF or separately. Part of our training prepares boys and girls for all skills necessary for expeditionary work and we ensure that sufficient time is given over to prepare for expeditions.

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6. There are two field days run by the school each academic year, one in Michaelmas and one in summer. The field day in Michaelmas is on Friday 8th October 2010 and will be an all day event with no over night sleep out. The field day in summer term next year will be Monday 27th June – Wednesday 29th June 2011. Further information will be sent to you nearer the time.
7. Students will get so much more from the CCF if they commit to the camps, trips and visits offered by us throughout the year. Each of these activities is advertised well in advance and interested students will bring a letter home outlining the activity. Adventure training camp for next year has been booked and will take place in Capel Curig in Snowdonia North Wales. It will involve camping, hillwalking, kayaking, climbing and abseiling. The dates being 17th – 21st April 2011. Summer camp is being planned at present and will either be Cyprus or Germany in early July 2011 or Warcop in Cumbria 2nd – 9th July 2011, a letter will be sent out at the earliest opportunity for this trip.
8. Alongside these school run camps and trips, the MOD offer camps and courses that your son or daughter may go on. These include wind surfing, diving, power-boating, sailing, kayaking, leadership, walking, climbing, shooting, and first aid; many lead to a nationally recognised qualification. Details about these courses are advertised to your son or daughter.
9. Whilst the MOD subsidises much of this training they will not pay for certain items of uniform (boots, stable belt and pocket book) and will not cover all our travel and messing costs. So a minimal charge may occur each term to spread the cost of these items.
10. To conclude I would like to mention the school website. Please use it; there is a lot of information on there especially on the CCF web page. To access go to sport & activities and click on that icon, then click on combined cadet force, there you will have options on the left hand icons to choose what you please.

Yours sincerely

WO2 Ian W McCleary (School Staff Instructor)