



19 November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

**Re: Bristol University Chemistry Camp**

I would like to offer your child the opportunity to take part in the Bristol University Chemistry Camp, which will run from Thursday 25 to Friday 26 June 2020.

Students will be attending the University of Bristol's Chemistry Department, will have the opportunity to use state-of-the-art equipment and facilities, and will participate in a number of activities which will help in their studies. Images of the teaching laboratories can be found at <http://www.chemlabs.bris.ac.uk/TeachingLabs/>

We will be staying overnight at the Premier Inn (Bristol "Finzels Reach") in twin rooms. A buffet breakfast will be available in the morning. Whilst practical sessions are subject to change by the university, the provisional itinerary is as follows:

**Day 1:**

- Practical Session 1: Warm up session -copper sulfate concentration determination via uv-visible spectroscopy.
- Lunch Break: Students to buy lunch on campus.
- Practical 2: Extraction of caffeine from tea leaves. This includes infra-red spectroscopy and sublimation point determination.
- Lecture Demonstration: A Pollutant's Tale (Tim Harrison, Bristol).
- Dinner at Zaza Bazaar in the City Centre (included in the cost of the trip).

**Day 2:**

- Breakfast at Premier Inn, Bristol "Finzels Reach" (included in the cost of the trip).
- Practical Session 3: Benzocaine Synthesis (Part 1).
- Lunch Break: Students to buy lunch on campus.
- Practical Session 4: Benzocaine Synthesis (Part 2).
- Lectures (2 x 30 min) by current postgraduates about areas of interest to senior students in reference to their research.
- Practical Session 5: The extraction and determination of vanillin from vanilla essence.
- Return by coach to St Martin's School. Approximate time of arrival 8pm.

There may be times during the trip when students are given free time. They should not go off on their own and should remain in small groups at all times. Staff will issue a contact number should any student become separated.

We will take a return coach trip to the University of Bristol. The trip will cost approximately £237.50 per student; the exact cost should be confirmed by the time I next write. I will be leading the trip and will be accompanied by one other colleague. Places on the trip will be randomly allocated by computer to ensure fairness. You do not need to enclose a deposit at this stage and if your child is successful in gaining a place you will be informed when the deposit or full payment is required. It is important to note that should the payment deadline be missed your child's place on the trip may be in jeopardy. Unsuccessful students will be placed on a waiting list.

If you are interested in your child participating, please fill in the attached consent form with full medical information and dietary requirements included. Please return the consent form to the finance office by 5 December 2019.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me: [jpeacock@st-martins.essex.sch.uk](mailto:jpeacock@st-martins.essex.sch.uk) or 01277 238318.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Peacock  
***Assistant Headteacher & Trip Leader***