



www.giftcourses.co.uk Tel. 01245 830321 enquiries@giftcourses.co.uk

**GIFT November Weekend for Curious Minds
Grendon Hall, Grendon, Northamptonshire
23rd to 25th November 2018**

GIFT, provider of internationally-renowned enrichment courses for more than 40 years, is running a Residential Weekend for Years 7-13, and those educated at home aged 11 to 18. The venue is the 17th century Manor House, Grendon Hall, Grendon, Northamptonshire. You choose one main course each day, and then there are early and late evening activities, as well as leisurely breaks in which to enjoy the grounds and the company of new friends.

Don't Try This At Home (Saturday)

Entertainment isn't just for the arts. On this course, try your hand at some noisy, colourful, surprising and occasionally smelly scientific demonstrations and research what makes them bang, shine and stink. Then develop your showmanship and channel your inner Brian Cox to create a 20-minute Science Show to enlighten and entertain other GIFTers.

Operation Chastise (Saturday)

Physics meets history in this project. Operation 'Chastise' has become a Second World War legend as has 617 Squadron of the R.A.F.: 'The Dambusters'. This squadron was formed at R.A.F. Scampton on 17th March 1943 under the command of Wing Commander Guy Gibson. He was to train the all-volunteer crews into a squadron capable of carrying out a single, special mission. The target for the raid was Ruhr Valley and in particular its dams supplying water to the industrial areas of Germany. Barnes Wallis was an aircraft designer at Vickers Armstrong Aviation who was already developing his theory regarding large bombs that might mimic some of the effects found in nature during an earthquake. A large and heavy bomb, if dropped from a great height, would develop sufficient velocity to penetrate deep into the ground before exploding. This was important as it was the shockwave travelling through the earth which caused the main damage. Experiment to see whether you can make an object bounce reproducibly over water, and learn about this extraordinary collaboration between a group of courageous volunteers and a British scientist.

Telling Tales (Saturday)

It is 1348 and your neighbour has just died of the Black Death. For safety you join a small party fleeing the city for the country. To entertain one another you all choose a theme at random and relate a story based on that theme each time the group stops. Generations of writers have been inspired by the formats for Chaucer's Canterbury Tales and Boccaccio's Decameron. Now it's your chance.

Escape from Colditz (Sunday)

You are a prisoner in the infamous World War II German P.O.W. Camp Colditz Castle and you have a cunning plan to build a glider on the roof of the castle, launch it (with the aid of a bath full of concrete), and then glide away silently to freedom over the heads of your unsuspecting German guards. However, it might be wise to do some research and test a few model prototypes first. The Escape Committee runs a crash course on aerodynamics and then holds a competition for the best glider design (the winner would of course get to fly his aeroplane on the escape attempt).

A Day in the East (Sunday)

Take one mulberry tree and add some silkworms. The result is silk, a beautiful fabric which can be used in many ways. Satin, silk and slaves; political and economic. We will discover the origins of silk and how it was used in trade. Find out how to decorate a truly unique material with paint, salt and wallpaper paste. Experiment with different techniques and create your own special effects!

The Meaning of Life (Sunday)

What's the meaning of life? Is it to ask, 'What's the meaning of, "What's the meaning of life?"'? A day of discovery, deliberation and discussion, drawing on philosophers from the Ancient Greeks to the present day, with some psychology and theology thrown in. If things go as we mean, each of us will emerge with some sense of what life means for us right now, which is no mean feat.

All tuition, accommodation, meals, materials and evening activities are included in the price of £229*.

This can be paid online, via bank transfer, Paypal or even a cheque – all details are on the website.
A deposit of £40 secures a place.

*GIFT is very fortunate in having the long-term support of a couple of charities that can provide bursaries to cover part of the cost of attending for families who would otherwise be unable to send their child. Please contact us for more information.

One of the findings of a recent OFSTED report about most able pupils was that only 1/3 of schools visited are using pupil premium for enrichment activities. Our courses are a great way to support such pupils and are especially helpful in raising their aspirations and connecting them with an extra peer group of very motivated youngsters.

Questions? Ring, email or see the website FAQs
01245 830321 enquiries@giftcourses.co.uk www.giftcourses.co.uk

GIFT has been nurturing the brightest, most curious young people for 40 years. Our Director of Studies regularly helps teachers to provide the best possible conditions for exceptionally able pupils to thrive during their school years. Please get in touch on 01245 830321 or enquiries@giftcourses.co.uk if you would like to know more.

DATES FOR 2019
GIFT Easter School 14th to 19th April
GIFT Summer School 4th to 9th August