



**G.A.T.E.WAYS**

**invite gifted Year 1 and 2 children**

**with a love of learning and science to**

## ***‘What A Weather Wizard!!’***

**G.A.T.E.WAYS** is an independent organisation offering challenging and enriching activities and experiences to develop and extend highly able children. This *JOURNEY* will run over four sessions.

Ever heard of a dry spell, a wet spell or a spell of unpredictable weather? Although these aren't the regular spells that a wizard might make, there is a certain mystifying magic about meteorology. We'll whet your appetite for rain, keep your head in the clouds, see what's hot in temperature and even teach you the wonders of wind. Before you know it, this Journey will make you a weather wizard with more front than a low-pressure system.

### **Requirements:**

Please bring your pencil case, an A4 exercise book; and a snack (no nuts please).

### **Session 1: Rain, Hail or Snow**

Although it is the sun that drives our weather systems, without water (and the amazing ways in which it can change states) we'd be left high and dry. So why does water appear in so many different ways – it seems to change... well, change like the weather. Clouds, hail, snow... even the mix of sunlight and water gives us the rainbow. We'll make it rain (in a jar), look at humidity and barometers and try to discover if it's raining cats and dogs... can you actually make slush puppies?

### **Session 2: Hot under the Collar**

There's far more to temperature than just the daily forecasts. We'll examine (and graph) the highs and lows of the thermometer, how the sun influences weather patterns, how we cope getting hot under the collar and how we stay positive when the temperature starts to get negative.

### **Session 3: Wind to Blow Your Mind**

We look at air pressure and isobars, keep our eye on cyclones and hurricanes, and see how the words of a wind wizard are always more than just a lot of hot air. Wind is an amazing phenomenon which can quite literally blow your mind... if you can handle the pressure!

### **Session 4: Extreme Weather Wizardry**

What happens when the weather gets wild? We'll look at the extremes of meteorological events – drought, flood, thunderbolts and lightning... very, very frightening! Plus we'll try our hand at being a weather reporter, reading out these bizarre events from around the globe and predicting what happens next.

### **Homework, Assessment and Reporting**

Students will be assessed partly on their involvement in and contribution to the discussions as well as their written work. A short written report will be compiled on each student and forwarded to parents or guardians.

### **About the presenter**

For Liam Mackay, teaching is all about relationships – both with understanding his students and in the relationship they have with the content of their learning. Teaching subjects like science is always rewarding as guiding students through experiments always results in shared discoveries. Currently the recipient of an internship at Belgrave Heights Christian School, Liam is enjoying seeing the theory of his studies being put into practice.