



26th November 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Key Stage Two Adventure Days Out - 7th – 11th December 2020

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to tell you about a very positive experience we have organised for your child. In the current climate, many opportunities that schools would normally be able to schedule have been unable to go ahead, so it is with pleasure that I write to tell you about a trip for each child in Key Stage Two... and they're free!

We have worked closely this term with Young Spirit of Adventure, the provider of our Year 5 and 6 residential visits, to organise single day visits to a variety of locations, allowing our children to benefit from the sort of experiences that they might usually encounter in the Autumn Term. Whilst children in Years 3 & 4 don't usually take part in a residential visit we thought that due to the recent lockdowns and their inability to spend time with friends, that we would include them in the package of experiences that we have arranged. During the second week of December trips will take place as follows:

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|------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|
| Monday 7 th December | Year 3 | Ovals Water Wood, Bickington |
| Tuesday 8 th December | Year 4 | Ovals Water Wood, Bickington |
| Wednesday 9 th December | Year 5 | Hound Tor, Dartmoor |
| Thursday 10 th December | Year 6 | Hound Tor, Dartmoor |
| Friday 11 th December | Year 6 | Ovals Water Wood, Bickington |

The visit will provide your child with the opportunity to learn some bushcraft skills, including collecting wood to build then light a fire, using the fire to cook a treat (like popcorn), constructing shelters, then taking part in more adventurous activities, depending on the year group they are part of. For instance, the older children will have the opportunity to take part in a high ropes course and take turns in abseiling down a low rock face. The younger children will be able to complete a rock scramble and enjoy toffee apples afterwards! All activities will of course be supported with fully qualified instructors from Young Spirit in attendance, all of whom are known to us. Your child's teacher will be able to inform them of the specific activities that will be on offer. Of course, if your child does not wish to take part in one of the activities, they don't have to. We will, of course, try to

persuade them gently to give new things a go - if we didn't, we wouldn't be supporting your child's development!

As I mentioned, the visits are free to all of our families. We receive school sports funding each year and we are using a considerable chunk of this to provide these opportunities to support your child's social, physical and environmental education. The visits will also support the building of effective classroom communities in each year group for the year ahead.

Unlike the Year 5 & 6 residential, there is not a kit list as such. However, it would support your child's enjoyment of the visit if they had appropriate clothing, footwear and a packed lunch (the kitchen will provide one to those children in receipt of free school meals.) The clothing required will just need to be weather appropriate – if it is raining, your child will need to take a waterproof coat and possibly waterproof trousers, if available. The visit is taking place in December so it will be cold – guaranteed! Make sure your child wears several layers of old, warm clothes, including woolly hat and gloves – they can always take off what is making them too warm! Their clothes will get dirty and smoky so be prepared for a full washing machine load when they get back! Footwear should be sturdy and protect their feet – shoes or walking boots would be ideal, if not then wellies or trainers will be fine.

All visits will take place within the normal school day. The coach will leave just after 9am so please make sure your child is in school by 8.45am on the day of their visit. They will return to school by 3pm so will be able to be collected or walk home as they would normally do.

So onto what we need to do next. Your child will shortly be bringing a reply slip home in relation to their trip. Please complete this slip and return it to us as soon as confirming your authorisation for your child to take part in the visit. As a curriculum-based learning experience taking place during the school day we look forward to being able to take every child from each class along.

We look forward to enjoying another memorable experience with your child and are pleased to be able to rely on your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Hankin
Key Stage Two Phase Leader