



Wednesday 8th May 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Year 5 Adventure Residential – Dewerstone Cottage – 26th – 27th September 2024

It is a real pleasure to write to you about residential visits again. It feels like we are getting back into a routine of being able to offer families great opportunities for outdoor learning once more. At such an early stage, with 5 months to go, it feels like a long way to go until visits take place, but believe me, the date will be here before we know it!

Following the success of previous years' visits, I am writing to give you important information about your child's residential trip in September when they will be part of our Year 5 group that visits Dewerstone Cottage in Shaugh Prior.

The residential will last for two days and one night. Whilst away, the children will be making camp, cooking their dinner over open fires and demonstrating teamwork and outdoor skills to solve problems successfully. The activities really are a chance to learn more about ourselves, face up to a challenge and find out what it takes to be a successful team player.

Following the success of recent residential events, we are keen for all of our Year 5 children to have the opportunity to begin their year at Haytor View in this fantastic setting. All of the activities take place in a safe and secure manner that all children can engage with. However, if your child has concerns about any of the elements of the stay, certain parts can be avoided if they wish. All of the instructors employed by Young Spirit are fully qualified and understand our school ethos so they are aware of our children's range of experiences and needs, which differ from person to person, and offer encouragement accordingly.

We are really keen to ensure that the trip is accessible to everyone and that we have as many children as possible joining us. With this in mind we have been working hard with Mark Reeves from Young Spirit to keep costs down. This unique experience should be something that lives long in the memory and provides a great way to spend time with classmates at the start of the year.

In order to meet the costs of the trip, we are seeking from parents a contribution of **£92 plus the cost of the coach (£17.80) for each child, making a total of £109.80 to pay.**

Young Spirit and Country Bus have supported us again to keep the cost of residential visits as manageable as possible (especially when the cost of everything else is increasing enormously). What's more, we always ensure that maximum value for money is received by parents/carers and the children who take part in the activities – our long term relationship with our providers allows us to make sure that this is the case.

The amount may be paid in instalments over the coming weeks or as a lump sum – whichever is most convenient. **Please make all payments via School Gateway** – our online payment system.

Sadly we are not able to take any children on the residential trips if full payment for the trip has not been received before we leave. With this in mind we'd encourage you to take advantage of the instalment system and pay in smaller, more manageable amounts if this is helpful. If you start paying about **£5 a week** from now, you will be fully paid up before we go!

We have confirmed a visit by Mark Reeves to our school at **2.45-3.15pm on Monday 10th June** in our school hall to talk to parents/carers about this residential visit and that being offered to our Year 6 children. Please come along to find out more details, have a look at some photos and ask any questions you may have about the trips.

I would be grateful if you could complete the reply slip that your child brings home confirming whether you plan for your child to take part in the trip, along with brief details of how you plan to make payments to meet the cost of the residential.

We look forward to enjoying another memorable residential visit and are pleased to be able to rely on your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Hankin
Key Stage Two Phase Leader