



Wednesday 8th May 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Year 6 Adventure Residential – Raleigh Estate, Dartmouth. 3rd – 4th October 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 next residential trip in October 2024 when they will be part of our Year 6 group that visits the Raleigh Estate near Dartmouth.

The residential will last for two days and the night in between. Whilst away, the children will be canoeing along the River Dart as well as making camp and cooking their dinner over open fires. They will take part in a Challenge Course to find 'The Lost World' where they will need to develop and use teamwork and outdoor skills to solve problems successfully. They will have the opportunity to ride the famous zip wire through the treetops of the Raleigh Estate and learn more about bushcraft and orienteering skills. They now even have the chance to beat their teacher on the tree climb! The activities really are a chance to learn more about ourselves, take on new challenges and experience what it takes to be a successful team player.

Following the success of previous residential events, we are keen for all of our Year 6 children to have the opportunity to begin their final 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, whether they are confident swimmers or not. However, if your child has concerns about any of the elements of the stay, certain activities 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 while maintaining the experiences that are such an important characteristic of this trip. As well as that, we are sharing arrangements with you as early as possible again this year so that you can have longer to make the payment necessary for your child.

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 Year 6. In order to meet the costs of the trip, we are seeking from parents a contribution of **£92 plus the cost of coach travel for each child, £17.80, making a total of £109.80 to pay**. We have reduced the length of this trip to make it more affordable to families during the current difficult economic period but have still managed to negotiate all of the great activities into a shorter stay. We can offer what we believe is fantastic value, thanks to a very understanding approach from Young Spirit - they 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.)

The amount may be paid in instalments over the coming months or as a lump sum – whichever is most convenient. **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 - there is still a lot of time left before we go. Procedures have been set up in school and payments can be made via School Gateway from today. If you choose this option and save around **£5 each week** from today, you will have paid the full amount by the time we leave!

We have confirmed a visit by Mark Reeves, the leader of Young Spirit, 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 5 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