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Dear Parents and Carers,

Derbyshire Residential Trip 20th - 24th March 2023



A residential field trip for our Year 6 pupils has become a regular annual event for our school and is, for many, a long-remembered part of their school experience. Having organised a successful brand-new trip for our current year 6s in May this year, and following such positive feedback, we are delighted to offer this trip once more.

The opportunity to go away together provides a wonderful prospect for the children to experience new and exciting challenges, and by living with their peers and working together in a team environment, helps develop independence, confidence and an ability to recognise their strengths and build self-esteem in a constructive way.

The trip is run by Manor Adventure and based at Willersley Castle, Matlock, having only opened at Easter 2022. Students stay in ensuite dormitories in the castle and participate in a variety of activities on-site as well as a visit to a local attraction off-site. Fully trained and qualified instructors, with the support of school staff, provide instruction in a full programme of activities in a safe, controlled and secure environment.

The activities the current Year 6s participated in included: a hill walk, taking advantage of the beautiful Derbyshire Dales; Climbing; Archery; Blindfolded Obstacle Courses; Canoeing; Kayaking; Grass Sledging; Rifle Shooting; Bushcraft; Scavenger Hunts; Low Ropes; a visit to Chatsworth House, Gardens, Adventure Playground and Farmyard; and many more. We are still in discussions with the centre to finalise the activities for 2023.

For further information about the trip, the activities, the centre etc. please check the website: www.manoradventure.com and you will be able to see for yourself how worthwhile and enjoyable these visits are.

For the current Year 6s, the total cost of this residential trip would have been in excess of £500. However, with school funding, we reduced the cost for the residential trip to £350. We are delighted to announce that we are able to cover the additional costs again, so that we can offer the residential at the same price for your child, £350.

This is broken down into:

- full board dormitory accommodation - £175
- transport, activities, equipment and instructors plus achievement certificates - £175

In line with our Charging Policy (available to view on the school website) the school is permitted to charge for the £175 board and lodging cost. The balance, £175, is regarded as a voluntary contribution. However, if take up for the residential is not high enough or if we do not receive full contributions from families, even with the additional contributions from school funds, we may not be able to run the trip.

We do appreciate that some families may not feel able to afford the full cost of this trip. If this is the case, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Theobald as subsidies are available in certain circumstances. All enquiries will be in confidence of course.

To secure a place, please log in to WisePay to pay a £50 deposit by Friday 16th September. (Please note that this deposit is refundable only in exceptional circumstances.) Further payments can be made in instalments between then and February; details are on WisePay.

We very much hope that all the new Year 6 children can participate in this excellent trip. Since the pandemic, prices for outdoor residentials have significantly increased, and after much research into various locations around the UK, we are delighted with the offer from Manor Adventure.

However, it is very important that everyone understands the need for good behaviour at all times, not just for safety reasons but also so that all the children and adults taking part can enjoy the week. For this reason, we do reserve the right not to take any child who, in the time leading up to the trip, is not behaving well in school, even if parents have paid to secure a place. (If this does happen, please be aware that it will not be possible to refund any payments.)

We are aiming to hold a meeting in the new academic year (date and time TBC) where we will give you a more detailed itinerary and kit list. If you would like any further information, please contact Mr Lawrence via the office email address.

Mrs B Theobald
Headteacher

