



The Griffin
Teaching School
Alliance



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Friday 22nd January 2016

Dear Parents / Guardians

I am a firm believer in the value of residential education and have seen the benefits that children get from it at several different schools where I have worked. Children have the opportunity to develop independence, visit new places and have new experiences. They also learn how to cope with the unfamiliar, build their self-confidence and expand their horizons. These are just a few of the benefits.

I have been keen to introduce a residential experience for our Year 5 pupils, in addition to the now traditional trip to Plas Dol-y-Moch, which we have been sending Year 6 to for a number of years. We have requested that the trip to Dol-y-Moch should take place in the Spring or Summer Term so that there is a 'reasonable' gap between the two trips.

I have been careful to choose a venue which is not too far from home and provides a range of different activities to those that the children who go to Dol-y-Moch will experience and have booked a 2 night stay at the Youth Hostel in the National Forest, near Swadlincote in Derbyshire. We have not finalised the programme yet but possible activities may include orienteering in the forest, adventure activities at Conkers, a day trip to Twycross Zoo, a visit to the National Memorial Arboretum and trips into Burton or Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

The accommodation is excellent, comprising of 3, 4 and 5 bed en-suite rooms and children will be provided with breakfast, a packed lunch and a three course dinner each day.

The visit will take place from Monday 4th July - Wednesday 6th July. We'll leave school in the morning of the 4th and will return in the afternoon of the 6th.

Unfortunately, we only have 27 spaces available and these will be distributed on a 'first come' basis. I have been able to subsidise the trip so the cost will just be £60 per pupil. You will be able to spread the payments between now and June 17th (at £10 per month) if you wish. To secure a place, please return the attached slip with a £10 deposit by Thursday 28th January.

There will be a meeting and more information about the trip nearer the time but we need to secure the places by Friday 29th January.

Yours sincerely,

Alasdair Black

Headteacher



Official research partner
Reading & Child Development
Applied Research Group



I would like my child _____ in class 5_____ to go on the trip to the National Forest from Monday 4th July - Wednesday 6th July 2016 and enclose a deposit of £10 to secure their place.

Signed

(Parent / Guardian)