



Bishops Down Primary and Nursery School

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Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

21st February 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Year 4 trip to The River Thames on Tuesday 19th March 2024

We are pleased to confirm that Year 4 will have the exciting opportunity to take a trip to London. They will visit the River Thames and take part in a workshop through an organisation called the Thames Explorer Trust. This trip will take place on **Tuesday 19th March** and will help the children to learn about rivers as part of our Misty Mountain, Winding River topic.

We have tickets booked with Southeastern Railways for a train to and from London Bridge. We leave from Tunbridge Wells station at 10:04. Please ensure your child is outside Tunbridge Wells Station (ticket office side, opposite The Range) by **9.45am** to give us enough time to register the children before boarding the train.

If your child is booked into Breakfast Club that day, they will have to walk down to the station with staff members at the start of school.

The return journey leaves London Bridge at 3.47pm and arrives at Tunbridge Wells Station at 4.31pm. Please collect your child from outside Tunbridge Wells Station (ticket office side, opposite The Range) at this time. If your child is booked into Beehive After School Club on that day, staff will walk them back to school from the station once all the other children have been collected.

If you know your child is being collected by someone other than yourself, you must inform the office via email **by midday on Monday 18th March**. The teachers will have a list of any children going home with someone else and dismiss them accordingly. ***If you do not inform the office, your child will not be allowed to go home with another parent.***

If the train is delayed by more than ten minutes, we will phone the school who will inform you. Alternatively, you may wish to keep an eye on the live train times via the national rail website or app.

The children will need to bring appropriate clothing/coats for the weather conditions and be in **full school uniform**. They can wear comfortable shoes (trainers) as there will be some walking throughout the day. The Thames Explorer Trust have informed us that the children should bring wellies with them as a second pair of footwear (alternatively old trainers) and have a plastic bag to carry muddy shoes in.

We also ask that the children bring a packed lunch with them, as we will be having lunch on the site. They will also need two drinks (no fizzy drinks, cans or glass bottles) and a small snack. **Please do not send any sweets or any food containing nuts.** Your child can bring a book for the train if they wish, **but no electronics or phones.**

All these should fit in a ruck sack on your child's back.

To ensure safety and security, we do require a number of parent helpers for this trip. If you are able to help, please email Mr Milne using the office email address (office@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk) by the 27th February. We will confirm parent helpers by email.

We are asking for a contribution of £12.10 per child to cover the cost of the entry fee and train tickets. You are not obliged to contribute and no child will be excluded on financial grounds. However, if we cannot raise the total amount, the trip may have to be cancelled. If there are any difficulties in paying this amount, please see Mrs Bettles or Mrs Lightbody.

Please pay using School Gateway, which enables parents to pay online, by 4th March 2024 at the latest.

Thank you for your support.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Milne', written in a cursive style.

Mr Milne
Y4 Class Teacher