

Whitstable Junior School

Oxford Street, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 1DB

Tel: (01227) 272385

Head Teacher : Ms Sarah Kent

e-mail: manager@whitstable-junior.kent.sch.uk

Friday 9th June 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Gilwell Park Final Arrangements – 26th – 28th June 2023

Thank you for your payments for the Residential trip for Year 6 pupils going to Gilwell Park. We are glad you have taken advantage of this fantastic opportunity for your child to extend their experiences in a variety of challenging outdoor activities and develop their independence, maturity and social skills through exciting, fun and challenging sessions.

Prior to the Trip

We suggest that your child assists you in packing their case/bag and then they will know what is in it! Children may be expected to carry or wheel their bag to the accommodation **on their own** so please make sure that it is **not too heavy**. We advise you to **label everything**, including each shoe and boot. Trying to find lost property at a residential centre can be difficult. Ensure you have a separate back pack (could be their normal school bag) to hold their snack, lunch and water. (See food for Monday) this bag is also used during the trip to carry water, a change of clothes after the rafting activity, etc...

We recommend that parents write a short letter to their children that they hide inside their suitcases. This is always a lovely surprise for the children when they find them. In addition to this, please note that **no** mobile phones or cameras are allowed to be taken on the trip.

Times

On the morning of the 26th children should arrive at school at **the normal time** through the normal bottom gate, ready to leave at approximately 9am with their bags and/or cases (clearly labelled with the child's name). In the past, parents have waited by the library to wave their children goodbye.

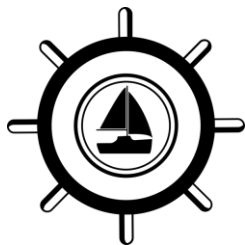
Medication

All **medication** will be looked after by **Mrs Dean who is our named first-aider**, so this needs to be packed separately to the rest of your child's belongings and be clearly marked with the: **Name, Dosage, Frequency and Medication Type**. Mrs Dean/Mrs Roy will be on the gate on Monday 26th June to receive the medication and to check arrangements if required.

-Due to the longer journey to Essex, please ensure that you have provided travel sickness remedies or medication for your child in good time for the journey there and also provided sufficient medication and instructions for the journey home: these will also need to be handed in on the morning of the trip to Mrs Dean in a sealed envelope.

-Inhalers should be kept on the child's person at all times and Mrs Dean or Mrs Spencer will check children have these prior to departure and throughout the week, but should be included on the medication form.





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-Due to being surrounded by grassy meadows, it is advisable to pack piriton (or similar) in case of a reaction to grass pollen (this is just a precaution and only required should you know your child is susceptible).

Please complete the attached medical form with any details that relate to the above and return to the school office by Monday 19th June so we know what to expect on the day and can check our records.

Staff

On the trip will be Mrs Hitchmough (Party Leader), Mrs Migden, Mrs Reed, Mrs Barrett, Mrs Dean, Mrs Lay (First Aider), and Nicola Checksfield (Wellbeing Team). All the staff are well known to the children.

Contact

Contact with the school party should only be made in the case of an emergency, through the school office during the day.

Cameras and Electrical Items

We request that no cameras, mobile phones or any other electrical devices are taken. We feel it is important to have downtime from screens. Should this be an issue, please email kroy@whitstable-junior.kent.sch.uk

Money

Your child does not need to bring any money.

Food for Monday

We are due to arrive at Gilwell by 11am; the children will need a **healthy snack and water**, plus a **packed lunch for when we arrive**. Please put your child's name on their lunch bag and make it something that can be thrown away - this should be stored in their back pack. However, any other additional snacks/food should not be sent with children as they generally cause lots of rubbish collecting in the dormitories and can encourage the children to have late night snacks on sugary food, so nothing additional is advised. However, should you wish to supply some specific food items due to dietary requirements then please contact Mrs Roy so that this can be arranged.

If your child has any **dietary requirements** and you haven't advised Mrs Roy or stated it on the schools dietary forms, please ensure you let Mrs Roy know asap, via her email (shown above).

Rooms

Your child will be asked to choose three friends that they would like to share a room with and be in a day group with. Each room holds a maximum of 8 beds, with 2 smaller rooms, for anyone who requires a quiet room. Do assure your child that they will be in a room with at least one friend. The rooms list will be revealed to the children when they arrive at the Gilwell Centre.





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Behaviour

Obviously, we will be emphasising to the children that we expect a high standard of behaviour in order to ensure that everyone has a wonderful week and we would be grateful if you could support us by stressing the need for responsible behaviour at all times.

We understand that you may be anxious about your children but the school office will send a text out once they have arrived safely at Gilwell Park. Also, in order to reassure you further, should we feel it necessary to contact you in the event of your child feeling unwell or extremely homesick, then we would not hesitate to do so.

We plan to arrive back at school on **Wednesday 28th June** at around **4pm** when the children should be collected from the top gate by the office. A text will be sent out 30 minutes to confirm arrival and advise of any delays.

Attached to this letter you will find a **Medical and consent form – please complete and return by MONDAY 19th JUNE and return to the office.**

We are all very much looking forward to the trip and we know that your child will have a fantastic time!

Many Thanks
Mrs Roy

