

5th November 2008

Dear Parents

I am writing to provide you with information regarding the Year 6 residential visit to Wales. I know the children are already very excited about it and I hope that they will all be able to take part.

Visit 1: Mr Hughes' Class - Monday, 23rd - Friday, 27th February

Visit 2: Mrs Dirks/Mrs Davies' Class - Monday, 2nd - Friday, 6th March

We shall be staying at the Hampshire Mountain Centre in the Brecon Beacons National Park. The centre has modern accommodation with small dormitories, a common room and dining rooms. We shall be self-catering and providing cooked breakfasts, packed lunches and evening meals.

These visits will give the children opportunities to develop socially, becoming more confident and tolerant of others. Through their experiences we aim to develop feelings of trust and responsibility. The activities will be related to the Geography and PE National Curriculum and the Hampshire RE Agreed Syllabus.

A great deal of time will be spent outdoors, in and around the hills and we shall enjoy activities in woods, caves and near rivers. If the weather allows we shall also go mountain walking. Appropriate walking boots, waterproof trousers and jackets will be hired from the Centre. The children will be accompanied on some of these activities by qualified instructors from the Mountain Centre and they will be supervised closely and specified adult/pupil ratios adhered to at all times. Safety of groups is paramount to the Hampshire Mountain Centre, therefore they:

- Are annually inspected under the Adventure Activities Licensing Regulations 1996;
- Follow Hampshire County Council Safety in Hazardous Pursuits Regulations;
- Ensure all staff employed by Hampshire Mountain Centre have recognised National Governing Body qualifications for the relevant activities;
- Ensure all staff employed by the centre have recognised First Aid qualifications;
- Ensure First Aid Kits and other emergency equipment relevant to the activity are carried by the instructors or group leaders;
- Ensure safety equipment relevant to the activity is provided by the centre.

The school staff carry out detailed risk assessments for all the activities and are guided by local advice regarding weather, etc.

Each visit will involve approximately 32 children and 6 adults. Mr Cook will lead the first visit with Y6H and Mr Bucknill will lead the second visit with Y6D. Details of other staff will follow. The journey to Wales will be by Minibus.

Each visit will cost £185.00 per child and this can be paid in instalments. We do understand that you might find it difficult to meet this cost. If, therefore, you wish your child to take part but feel that there may be a problem please contact Mrs Benton and we shall try to find a way to help you.

Information for both visits:

Your child will be staying at: The Farmhouse, Argoed Llwyd, Libanus, Brecon Powys, LD3 8EN
Telephone: (for emergency use only) 01874 611947

Any necessary medical or personal information needs to be written on the attached form and returned to school in good time. It is essential that this information is up to date and provides a complete picture for the staff accompanying the visit. Medicines must be clearly labelled with the name of child and instructions, and can be given to a teacher on the morning of departure.

Please return the attached reply slip by **Friday, 12th December 2008.**

There will be a Parents Meeting about the Wales visits on **Wednesday, 4th February 2009 in Mr Hughes' Year 6 classroom,** where we will provide you with more detailed information about the trip.

We are all looking forward to these very enjoyable (and hardworking) weeks. In the meantime if you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact the Year 6 teachers or myself.

Yours sincerely

Rowley Bucknill
Deputy Headteacher

SWANMORE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL - RESIDENTIAL VISITS TO WALES

Mr Hughes' Class : 23rd to 27th February
Mrs Dirks/Mrs Davies' Class : 2nd to 6th March

Child's Name Class

I should like my child to take part in the residential visit to Wales.

If you have not already started payment by instalments could you please indicate below how you would like to pay:

- a) I enclose a contribution of £50 and shall send a further £135 by Friday, 16th January 2009.
- b) I enclose a contribution of £185.
- c) I should like to contribute in instalments. Please send me an instalment card.

(Please make cheques payable to Swanmore Primary School)

Signed (parent) Date