

29th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Testwood Lakes

At Berrywood we aim to offer your children the fullest possible education, with a varied exciting curriculum. As part of this, projects are often supported by educational visits or visitors, which I know are thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

The school budget finances all the 'essentials' that are needed to ensure the National Curriculum is delivered, but cannot support these visits. It is for this reason that I have to ask parents if they are willing to contribute towards the cost where applicable. If you are unable to contribute the full amount, any contribution received would work towards making the trip more viable. Should a number of parents not be prepared to make a contribution then, unfortunately, the visit may not be able to proceed.

Year 1 are planning a visit to Testwood Lakes, on Wednesday 15th May 2024 (Butterflies - ST/1) and Thursday 16th May 2024 (Ladybirds - LH/1 and Bumblebees - LP/1) to support their Science learning. A voluntary contribution of **£19.36** is required to help cover the cost of this trip.

The income generated from school trips has declined year on year, despite the cost of transport having increased significantly. This has led to the school making a loss to the value of tens of thousands of pounds over this period. I would also like to stress that **schools are not allowed to make a profit from any trip or visitor** and therefore, in the interests of openness, a breakdown of the cost of this trip is shown below.

Activity	Cost
Entry Fee & Workshops	£623.00
Coaches	£1250.00
Travel grant from New Forest National Park	- £150.00
Total	£1723.00
Divided by 80 Children	£19.359 per head

Your child is entitled to a universal free school meal therefore a packed lunch will be provided if required. The packed lunch will contain a cheese roll or a ham roll, a biscuit or a cake, and a piece of fruit. Please complete the form below to enable us to produce the correct number of packed lunches on the day. You can provide your child with their own packed lunch. Ideally, we would prefer not to carry lunchboxes around as they can be heavy and cumbersome but we also want to be environmentally friendly, so please be mindful of this when packing lunches. For health and safety reasons, no glass bottles or cans please. All children will take their own water bottle and will bring this back to school with them. Children will be provided with their usual fruit snack but if you do wish to provide your child with their own fruit snack, please ensure it is named. Children will need to wear their school uniform and appropriate footwear for being outside (trainers or plimsolls).

Please complete the Google form below giving your consent for your child to attend the trip. Please also inform us of your emergency contact details should we need to contact you during the day and record any medical needs your child has. We would also be extremely grateful of any parent volunteers to accompany us on the trip. Please use the form below to indicate whether you would be able to help on the trip and a member of the Year 1 team will contact you via Dojo.

Please note that regulations state, we are unable to take children on the trip if we do not have written consent. The Google form, link below, should be returned to your child's class teacher by **Tuesday 7th May** at the latest, this will enable us to order the required number of packed lunches with the kitchen.

<https://forms.gle/8gxHyiCT6iCc6WBYA>

We do hope that this is an enjoyable and educational learning experience for the children. If you do have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Reilly
Headteacher