



19th October 2023

To the Parent/Carer of Children in Badger Class (Year 5)

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Request for voluntary contributions for educational visit

At Mercer's Wood Academy, we understand that learning outside of the school environment is a valuable and effective means of enhancing the curriculum and pupils' learning, understanding and personal and social development.

In light of this, we are planning an educational trip to the Jorvik Centre in York on Monday 3rd June 2024 for children in Badger Class (Year 5). The children will take part in a Viking Sagas Workshop; where they will learn about Viking myths and poetry, listen to stories heard by the Vikings over 1000 years ago. They will be given the opportunity to re-enact a myth, have fun with Viking riddles or 'Kennings'. After lunch the children will engage with more hands-on learning by becoming a trainee archaeologist. The children will learn about which materials survive and how archaeologists' sort and identify items from different historical periods. Then onto digging a replica excavation site to see what they can discover.

We believe that this trip will prove to be significantly beneficial to pupils, and we hope that as parents, you will also recognise the value and importance of this visit.

Whilst we offer as much funding as is possible towards our educational visits, we, unfortunately, do not have the available financial resources to fund the full amount of this visit. In order to ensure that this opportunity is available to our pupils, we would like to ask for a voluntary contribution of £6.00 from the parents of the pupils invited on the trip, although you are welcome to give more, if you are able, or if you have more than one child invited on the trip and would like this to be reflected in your donation. This contribution is to cover the cost of entry into the Jorvik Centre; the school will be covering the cost of transport. Please see the table below outlining the costs requested per pupil:

Contribution	Amount per pupil
School contribution (cost of transport - £520.00)	£20.00
Parental contribution requested from parents (entrance fee)	£6.00

As with all our visits, we reserve the right to refuse any child whose behaviour constitutes a risk to the health and safety or well-being of others. Children who do not go will work in school.



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Your child will need (weather dependent):

- Sensible shoes as there will be some walking
- Sun cream and a sun hat
- A waterproof coat

If your child receives free school meals, a packed lunch will be provided by our school meals provider. You are, however, able to provide your own packed lunch for them if this is preferred.

Important:

If your child suffers from travel sickness, please make sure your child takes their medication **before** coming in to school in the morning. If your child will also require medication for the return journey, **please complete the attached request for administering medication form and return to school with your reply slip. Medication should be sent in to school in a sealed envelope with your child on the day of the visit. Medication will not be administered unless this has been completed.**

Finally, I would like to thank you for taking the time to read this letter and I hope that we are able to cover the costs of this trip in order to provide your child, as well as other pupils, with this great learning opportunity. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Ola by calling the school office on 01427 612572 or by emailing mercersooffice@talloaksacademy.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Mr K Ola
Head of School