



15th April 2024

To the Parent/Carer of Children in Squirrel Class (Year 1)

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Squirrel Class School Trip to Gainsborough Heritage Centre

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 Gainsborough Heritage Centre on Friday 17th May 2024, this is the re-arranged trip which had previously been cancelled.

During the trip the children will take part in a workshop called 'Life in the Past', this will include taking part in 4 planned activities:

Activity 1 Artefact handling: Toy Box – the children will explore difference between toys from the past and more modern toys. The children will have the opportunity to sort the toys on a timeline for the years 1900 to present day.

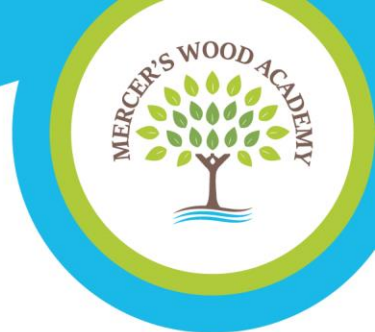
Activity 2 Grocery Shopping in Parkinson's Market – Children will discover how shopping has changed since the 1940's, take part in role play of shopping in the greengrocer's shop. They will read from a shopping list and ask the shop assistant for items, before paying with pre-decimal money.

Activity 3 Wash Day in the 1940's House – Through looking at our 1940's house exhibit, the children will learn at how life has changed since the 1940's and compare how we currently wash our clothes to the 1940's methods. Working in pairs the children will use a dolly peg and tub, scrub the clothes on a washboard and find out how a mangle works. They will then peg the clothes on a washing line, use a flat iron before airing them on a clothes horse.

Activity 4 Visiting the Post Office – In the Post Office, the children will find out about how people used the Post Office and made telephone calls in the past. After creating a post card, they will then purchase a stamp from the postmistress with pre-decimal money, before adding a postmark to their card. They will use their reading skills to sort letters and parcels into sacks for the postman to deliver to the local town.

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 £2.50 from the parents of the pupils invited on the trip. Please see the table below outlining the costs requested per pupil:





Contribution	Amount per pupil
Parental contribution requested from parents	£2.50
School contribution (cost of transport)	£0

We would like to make it clear that this contribution is entirely voluntary from yourself and there is no obligation for you to submit this payment. However, as we are unable to cover the full cost, insufficient funds may result in the visit being unable to go ahead. If we have already received donations prior to the cancellation of the trip, please be assured that these will be refunded to parents in full.

If you have not already made payment via Arbor please go to the trips section to make the payment. Payments should be made before 18th July 2024.

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.

Your child will need:

- Sensible shoes as there will be some walking
- A waterproof coat, whatever the weather

All children should wear their school uniform as normal. As your child is entitled to universal infant free school meals, a packed lunch will be provided by our school meal provider. Your child will, however, need to bring a water bottle with them on the day.

Children will leave school at 9.00 am / 9.15 am and will return at approximately 2.00 / 2.30 pm.

For more information on voluntary contributions and our policy towards allocating pupils' places on our visits, please read our Charging and Remissions Policy and our Educational Visits Policy, both of which can be accessed via our school website. Alternatively, hard copies of both policies are available upon request from our school office.

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 us by calling the school office on 01427 612572 or by emailing mercerooffice@talloaksacademy.co.uk

Yours sincerely

Mr K Ola
Headteacher

