

FORD CASTLE Tuesday 5th – Thursday 7th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 4 Children,

Every year we take the children in Year 4 to Ford Castle on a 3 day residential visit. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to stay in a real castle and it offers an experience that I feel is unrivalled by other educational centres. The visit to Ford Castle this year is from the Tuesday 5th to Thursday 7th May 2020. I am writing to give you further information about the activities in which your children will be involved at Ford Castle and the equipment they will need.

The children will need:-

1. toothpaste
2. toothbrush
3. soap
4. towel
5. brush/comb
6. underwear (including spares)
7. night-clothes
8. t-shirts/shirts
9. sweaters
10. trousers
11. wellingtons
12. waterproof coat
13. comfortable shoes/trainer
14. sand shoes for indoors

***It is not necessary to buy new clothes for the visit. Older, practical clothes are the best.**

The children may bring a small amount of pocket money for the souvenir / tuck shop, but this is not essential. Suggested amount of between £5.00 & £10.00.

The children will be accompanied on the visit by male and female members of staff, who will also be supported by a team of instructors who work at the Castle and supervise activities.

The aims of the visit are to offer the children experiences which will help support our history and geography curriculum and also encourage team building and social skills. Activities will include a tour of Ford Castle, a country walk and visit to Etal Castle, archery, fencing, problem solving and several team building activities carried out at height.

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The children will become more independent and confident, developing personal and social skills in an environment which is both safe and stimulating and includes exciting activities such as a zip wire that has been erected in the Castle grounds. The children will of course be harnessed for all adventurous activities and will be supervised by experienced activity leaders to ensure their enjoyment and safety.

The children will be encouraged to have a go at all activities, which may push them out of their comfort zone, but they will not be forced to do anything that they decide is beyond their capability.

Please see the Ford Castle website for further information.

We will leave school by coach at approximately 9.30a.m on 5th May. The children should come to school for 9.00a.m as normal and take their bags to the hall before going to their classroom to register. You are welcome to wait in the hall to wave the children off at 9.30a.m if you would like to. We will return to school at approximately 3.00p.m on 7th May when you should collect your children to take them home. If we are delayed for any reason we will contact the school so that you can be informed of our estimated time of arrival.

The children will not be allowed to phone home but in an emergency you can contact the castle on 01890 820257. Mobile phones and other electrical devices should not be taken.

The children will be informed about their sleeping arrangements before the visit. They will be excited about the visit, as are the staff, and they will no doubt all return tired, but happy and wiser for the experience.

I hope that the above information will enable you to decide whether or not you would like your child to attend the visit to Ford Castle, and we hope that all the children will.

The cost of the trip will be £175.00. This includes accommodation, which is full board, all activities and transport. Please return the slip attached with a deposit of £50.00 no later than Friday 8th November. The balance of £125.00 should be paid by Friday 20th March 2020 and you may wish to pay this by instalments.

There will be a meeting at 4.15pm on Wednesday 16th October for any parents requiring further information about the visit.

Yours sincerely

Mr K Vardy
Headteacher

Visit www.fordcastle.co.uk for a virtual tour of Ford Castle.

Ford Castle Visit Reply Slip

Name of pupil.....

Class.....

I give permission for my son/daughter to take part in the proposed Ford Castle visit on the 5th to 7th May 2020.

I enclose a deposit of £50.00

I enclose full payment of £175.00

(Please delete where necessary.)

Signed.....Date.....

Please return no later than Friday 8th November 2019.

We will retain this sheet in school to record payments.

For Office Use Only:

Payment Reccash/chq Date Signed

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