

Ghyllside Primary School

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Cumbria.

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Headteacher : Mr.H.B.Davies (BA. Hons)

Friday 5th January 2018

Y5 Residential Visit to Derwentwater: Wednesday 9th May – Friday 11th May 2018 Information Meeting: Monday 29th January at 5pm

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is with great pleasure that we can confirm the dates of this year's residential visit to the Youth Hostel at Derwentwater (Barrow House) and invite you to an information meeting on Monday 29th January at 5pm in Mr Duxbury's classroom.

As some of you may know, our summer project in Year 5 is "Our Cumbria". We learn about: the mountain environment of the Lake District, the history of the woollen trade in the county and Kendal in particular, landscape art and the work of some of the Lakeland Poets. We're passionate believers in children learning through first-hand experience so over the course of the three day visit, children will (briefly!):

- Visit Whinlatter Forest (the only true mountain forest in England) to learn about the way in which it is managed together with the work done to support native wildlife there, participate in shelter building and teambuilding challenges.
- Go fell walking...a stunning day's walk taking the ferry across to Hawes End, making an ascent of Cat Bells, returning via the southern end of Derwentwater and Lodore Falls (scene of Robert Southey's inspiration for his epic poem "The Cataract of Lodore")
- Participate in outdoor art and poetry workshops at the iconic Ashness Bridge, making preparatory studies for work to be completed back in school and visit a working hill farm run by The National Trust to learn more about how the uplands are farmed and about the woollen trade in Cumbria. ...and all in just three days!!

Cost

The cost of this year's visit will be **£105** per child and this includes all meals (except packed lunch on the first day), transport, Forestry Commission and National Trust rangers and activities, and accommodation. We manage to keep the cost so low through using a Youth Hostel for accommodation and through leading the hillwalking, art and poetry sessions ourselves so we aren't paying for expensive "activity centre" staff. We are incredibly fortunate at Ghyllside to have so many staff and parent volunteers well qualified and experienced to take children out into the mountain environment. Our reason for keeping the cost so (relatively) low is to endeavour to get all children on the visit. Over the last few years we have managed to get almost every child there. This has a huge impact on the learning done back in school and upon the children's social and personal organisation skills.

If you decide, either before or after the information evening, that you would like your child to attend, we will be asking for a non-returnable deposit of **£40** per child to secure the hostel booking. This will **need to be paid by Friday 9th March** with the balance (**remaining £65**) due by **Friday 27th April**. If your family are struggling financially, please do not hesitate to call in and talk to us about ways in which we may be able to help.



Sounds great, so what do I do now?

Come along to the information evening on January 29th where we will show photos from last year's visit, talk a bit more about the activities and accommodation in more detail and, most importantly, answer the questions you may have. The permission slip attached will need to be completed to indicate that you wish your child to go. This can be done immediately or you can complete it after the information evening on the 29th January.

The final day to return this slip is Friday 2nd February as we have to collate numbers and confirm the booking at that point.

Please note these important dates:

Information Evening: Monday 29th January at 5pm in Mr Duxbury's room

Initial permission slip (at the bottom of this letter): return by Fri 2nd February

Deposit of £40 due by Friday 9th March

Remaining balance of £65 to be paid by Friday 27th April

Date of Trip: Wednesday 9th May – Friday 11th May 2018

If you prefer to pay in smaller instalments, please use the payment booklet that accompanies this letter. Send smaller payments in with the booklet and we will sign it and return it to you so you can keep track of how much you have paid.

Many thanks for your ongoing support, helping us to provide the best possible learning opportunities for our children.

Dan Duxbury

Paul Giblin

Jane Reedy

Y5 Residential Visit to Derwentwater: Wednesday 9th May – Friday 11th May 2018 – PLEASE RETURN BY 2ND FEBRUARY

I, _____ (parent/carer), give permission for my child

_____ to attend the Derwentwater residential on

the above dates.

