

BENTLEY C. E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 3 RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO THE GORDON BROWN CENTRE - MAY 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

At Bentley CE Primary School we believe that each child is entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum accessed through active learning opportunities and our school visits and residential trips are an essential and integral part of this. They provide an essential resource for the teaching of the National Curriculum but even more crucially, an opportunity to extend our children's understanding and knowledge of the world and an opportunity to develop their personal, social and emotional education through working as part of a team on collaborative work.

Your child will be offered a residential visit later in Year 4 to The Gordon Brown Centre. We feel that these trips are of great value to the children and this has been recognised by parents and carers year on year as being a special learning opportunity.

The Gordon Brown Centre is a 25 acre environmental education centre in Rotherwick, just outside of Hook. It is owned by Brent Council and has been open since the mid-1970s. It is named after a Brent scientist who believed that every child should have the opportunity to experience the environment in which we live and make a contribution to keeping the planet safe.

Each child that comes to the centre is made to feel safe, comfortable and spends time learning alongside our own staff whilst having a huge amount of fun! Staff who live and work at the centre share the space with a large number of well-loved animals, including goats, donkeys, rabbits, chinchillas, chickens, pigs, tortoises and terrapins.

Your child is invited to stay for three fun packed days and two nights from 8^{th} – 10^{th} May 2019. Their programme includes creating shelters and making an open fire, cooking and food chains.

We wanted to give you this information now so that you are able to plan ahead for the costs involved. The cost for the four day, three night stay will be £136.00 per child. We appreciate that this is not an insignificant sum and hope this prior notice will help.

We have set up the ability for you to pay online from today. You may pay the full amount or a little each month, but the non-refundable deposit of £20.00 needs to be paid by 31^{st} January 2019. The balance will then be required by the end of the Spring Term in March 2019.

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We hope that all the children will be able to take up this invaluable opportunity, but understand that a residential visit may not be possible for every child. Please do contact the school office who will be more than happy to set up a meeting with me if required.

If you would like to get a flavour for what your child will get up to on their trip, please visit our website and read the blog from this year's visit – click <u>here</u> for a link to the blog.

Yours sincerely

Katy Pinchess Headteacher