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Dear Parents,

We have booked our residential visit to Woodlands for 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September 2018. The Woodlands centre is situated in Glasbury-on-Wye, Wales. The centre is staffed by teachers with outdoor activity qualifications, who are responsible for the supervision of the activities; which may include: caving, mountain walking, jungle gym, orienteering and problem solving. The Year 5 children may already know about the centre from older siblings or from the current Year 6s.

The week is exciting and demanding, both in the physical sense and in the requirement to co-operate as part of a responsible team, as well as being accountable for individual actions and property. The resident staff will look for examples of good teamwork and strength of character in meeting new challenges and children will be encouraged to demonstrate independence and initiative. In previous years, we have seen children of all confidence levels improve hugely and the value of this visit cannot be overstated. Children use skills and personal qualities developed at Woodlands throughout Year 6 and it provides a fantastic platform on which the Year 6 teachers can build. It also stands them in good stead for the transfer to secondary school and the greater responsibilities and independence they will be given as they mature.



The overall cost of the week will be £320. Parents in receipt of Income Support and Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, who cannot meet the full cost of the visit, please see the King's Meadow office staff or the class teachers. The cost covers: qualified supervision, return travel by coach, minibus use throughout the week, insurance, all meals and board and use of specialist equipment for the activities. The equipment provided includes: walking boots, waterproof anorak/trousers/backpack for daily use, fleece, caving suit, helmet, light and Wellington boots for the caving days.

The centre is owned and run by Oxfordshire Education Authority and is non-profit making. Rising prices over the years reflect rising costs and the need for the Woodlands centre, like other centres, to maintain financial viability. We are required to ask for an initial non-returnable deposit of £75 by 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017, as this will need to be forwarded to Woodlands to confirm our places. This can be paid in instalments to spread payment at this time of year (eg. £25, £25, £25) between now and the end of March. Please pay via Parent Pay. By doing this, you will be giving permission for your child to attend the visit.

Children may be apprehensive about going, particularly if they don't have an older sibling who has already been to Woodlands. If this is the case, please pop in to see us and we will do our best to reassure them. We are keen to take all of the year group and the earlier we are made aware of potential issues, the more likely it is that we can find a way of overcoming them. Should you have any other queries, please refer them to either of us.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Golden, Mrs Redding and Mrs Knights

