



# OLD PALACE PRIMARY SCHOOL



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12<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Year 5 Parent/ Carers,

As we explained last year, because historically we have struggled to get 30 pupils from this year group to attend residential visits, we have not arranged a visit to Mersea Island for Year 5 this year.

We feel that this is unfortunate as the children gain so much from residential visits including opportunities to develop their independence, resilience, problem solving and team building skills.

With that in mind, the school has researched the possibility of the children attending a residential visit at the start of year 6. The provision dates would be 16-18<sup>th</sup> September, when the weather should still be nice. We think that this would be a great way for the children to help the children to bond, at the start of the academic year.

The proposed venue would be Gorsefield, which is used by a number of Tower Hamlets schools. The cost would be £100 per child and this would need to be paid before the summer holidays.

To give an indication, the programme is likely to be as follows:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<b>8:00am - 8:30am</b>		Breakfast	Breakfast
<b>8.30am – 9:30am</b>	Leave school for Gorsefield	Preparing for the day / Bedroom tidy	Preparing for the day / Bedroom tidy
<b>9:30am–2:30pm</b>	Arrive at Gorsefield – approx. 9:30am  Unpacking, settling in and introduction to grounds  <b>Team Building Activity 1</b>	<b>Three group rotation</b> (2 activities in morning and 1 activity in afternoon)  <b>Mountain Biking Shelter building Art</b>	<b>Orienteering</b> <i>Led by Centre staff</i>
<b>12.30pm-1.45pm</b>	<b>Lunch &amp; Quiet time</b>		<b>Lunch</b> <b>Depart at 13.30</b>
	<b>Long Walk</b> (Discovering the features of the Essex Rural Countryside)	<b>Third activity</b> <b>Team Building Activity 2</b>	
<b>4.30pm-6.30pm</b>	<b>Dinner &amp; Free Time</b>		
<b>6.30pm onwards</b>	Craft activity/Campfire	Talent Show	

In order to proceed, we would like to get an indication of how many families would be interested in sending their child. If you would consider sending your child please could you reply to this text with Y (for yes) or N (for no) by 12pm on 14<sup>th</sup> March. This is not a commitment to attend, but will allow us to see whether we are likely to get sufficient numbers to allow the trip to take place.

We have not mentioned the possibility of this trip to the children, as we do not wish to cause them disappointment, if it cannot go ahead.



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Headteacher: Mr G. Palmer BA (Hons)  
Business Manager: Michele Walsham