



ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

"Together we will give our children
the roots to grow, and the wings to fly"

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Headteacher: Mrs Claire Marsland

Dear Year 4 Parents and Carers

October 14th 2021

GREAT NEWS!! After missing out for the past two years, this year's Year 4 residential has been booked. We are going to Kilve Court, which is a centre run by Somerset County Council, from **Wednesday 6th to Friday 8th April 2022**. This letter contains important information about how you can secure a place for your child to come with us on this new exciting residential trip.

PLEASE NOTE IT IS NOT FIRST COME FIRST SERVED, THERE ARE ENOUGH SPACES FOR EVERYONE AND WE WOULD LIKE EVERYONE TO GO.

What and where is Kilve Court?

Kilve Court is superbly located, within walking distance from a stunning area of outstanding national beauty (AONB) on the Quantock Hills and the coast at Kilve beach, so, as you can imagine, our group will have a fantastic all-round, outdoor experience there. The original Georgian mansion has been sympathetically extended and updated and is now the impressive flagship for SSE (Support Services for Education) outdoors. Priding itself on excellent delivery of outdoor education and enrichment since 1962, Kilve Court can accommodate 120 people.

Some of the activities we could experience on our trip are: night walks, dam building, archery, orienteering and experiencing a campfire. Exact activities are still to be confirmed.

For more information about Kilve Court, please visit, <https://sseoutdoors.co.uk/centres/kilve-court/>

Our Charging Policy.

Residential Trips

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education or travel expenses. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. Children in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant are exempt from payment.

Voluntary Contributions

When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. All contributions are voluntary; however, if we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

The total cost of the trip, including board and lodging and activities is **£160 per child**. **There will be no further costs.** St John's will provide the transport to and from Kilve Court. In order to help spread the cost, we will ask for payment in 4 instalments. Alternatively, if you wish to pay in full, you can. The instalments details are as follows:

£40.00	Non-refundable deposit , by no later than Friday 5 th November 2021
£40.00	By no later than Friday 3 rd December 2021
£40.00	By no later than Friday 4 th February 2022
£40.00	By no later than Friday 4 th March 2022



Payment is made through ParentMail and payment items for all instalments are available now. If you prefer to pay by cash or cheque, you should request a barcode by emailing stjohnsfrome@educ.somerset.gov.uk. You can then pay at any local PayPoint.

Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium

The school will contribute £120 of the cost of the trip for pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium. If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium, you should therefore pay the £40 deposit instalment and no further payment is required.

Cancellations

If you cancel your child's place on the trip, a cancellation fee will apply in line with the provider's terms and conditions. The deposit will be forfeited.

The cancellation fee depends upon the period of notice given in advance of the first day of the visit according to the following;

- More than 8 weeks in advance – loss of deposit
- Between 6 – 8 weeks – loss of deposit plus 25% of the remaining balance of total booking
- Between 4 – 6 weeks – loss of deposit plus 50% of the remaining balance of total booking
- Less than 4 weeks – loss of deposit plus the remaining balance of total booking.

Any cancellations must be sent in writing to the Finance Office at paymentsstjohns@educ.somerset.gov.uk

COVID-19 pandemic

If the COVID-19 pandemic is ongoing and causes the trip to be cancelled, we will endeavour to obtain a refund from the provider or make a claim through our insurance policies in order to refund parents.

Balance queries

If you have any queries about your balance, please contact the Finance Office, either via phone or the above email address.

Whichever method of payment you choose, you must make **your deposit payment of £40.00 by Friday 5th November 2021.**

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD DOES NOT WANT TO GO?

School will continue as normal for children who do not go on this trip. They will be expected to attend school for those 3 days and will spend this time in other classes. Failure to send them will be classed as an unauthorised absence.

WHY DO ST JOHN'S STAFF WANT TO GO ON A RESIDENTIAL TRIP?

Kilve Court will be a learning experience beyond the classroom like no other! It will bring out the very best in your child, helping them learn to work together, persevere, build confidence, resilience and independence in preparation for middle school as well as to make lifelong memories, and experience activities that we cannot offer at school. It will also be great FUN!

Throughout the forthcoming year, we expect each child to behave responsibly and sensibly, and this is particularly the case at Kilve Court. **Children who behave badly may be sent home and their parents asked to come and collect them. School reserves the right to refuse to take a child whose behaviour at school gives us cause for concern.**

More information will be sent out throughout the year. In the meantime, please talk to your child about this fantastic, worthwhile trip as we will at school. If you do have any questions, please let us know either via the school or Year 4 email address.

We are looking forward to it and we hope your child will be too.

Many thanks

Mr Bowman & Mrs Simenton
Year 4 Team

