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'Placing learning at the heart of everything we do'

4 September 2023

Dear Parents

This year the children have had lots of exciting trips and experiences, which have been a great success. We are planning to continue this for the children this coming school year.

I'm sure you are already aware of the importance of great educational experiences, school trips and educational visitors in your child's learning and this is something we have always placed great importance on at Priestley. The trips and visitors provide powerful, positive experiences that help enhance the personal, social and emotional development alongside providing unique opportunities for kinaesthetic learning ie 'learning by doing' and encouraging children to engage with people, places and buildings in new and different ways.

With this in mind, we have looked at the curriculum for the forthcoming year and planned some fantastic experiences that will greatly enhance the children's learning.

UKS2	Avocet and Mallard		
Term 1	Beast Creator	w/c 18/09/2023	Jungle Jonathan
Term 2	Peasant, Princess & Pestilence	w/c 20/11/2023	Chepstow Castle
Term 3	Stargazer	w/c 15/01/2024	Science Dome - Stargazers
Term 4	A Child's War	w/c 26/02/2024	Steam
Term 5	Time Traveller (Indus Valley)	w/c 22/04/2024	British Museum
Term 6	ID	w/c 17/06/2024	We The Curious

After discussions with Priestley Parents' Forum around the difficulties of budgeting for these fantastic experiences, we have booked them all in advance in order to be able to give you both plenty of notice of forthcoming trips, as well as being able to calculate a total cost and average out the amount across the year so no one term is any more expensive than another. Therefore, we will be requesting a contribution of **£14.75 each term for Avocet and Mallard Classes**, which can be paid through Parent Pay. (The first term's amount will appear on your account, w/c: 04.09.2023).

The cost of entrance fees, educational workshops, coaches, etc, has increased significantly in the last year. As well as your contribution, the school will also be contributing a significant amount towards the trip costs, as we feel they are vitally important to the children. This means the amount you pay will be £14.75 per term. **I do, however, need to state at this point, should there be insufficient contributions received, a trip or experience may unfortunately not go ahead.**

During the year other opportunities may arise such as Residential Trips or Theatre Trips for instance. Please be aware that these additional opportunities will be voluntary and will incur an added cost, should you wish your child to participate in the experience. We hope this will allow the children to continue to enjoy a wealth of fantastic learning opportunities, that will also create a bank of happy memories that they can take with them into adulthood.

I thank you in advance for your continued cooperation and support in making the children's learning come to life.

Yours sincerely

A Marsh-Ballard
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Headteacher