



**Headteacher – Miss J Keeble**

**Email: [office@yattonschoools.co.uk](mailto:office@yattonschoools.co.uk)**

17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 6 children,

**Year 6 Residential Visit to Morfa Bay October 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Arrangements are now in their final stages for Year 6's residential visit to Morfa Bay Adventure, Pendine, from Mon 4<sup>th</sup> – Fri 8<sup>th</sup> October. I hope your child is looking forward to the trip!

We would like to take this opportunity to provide you with any additional information and clarify arrangements for the week – you have received some of this information before, but no harm in sending out again! There is still time, especially this year, for changes in arrangements to occur between now and when we go but we will, of course, update you if necessary.

**If you have any questions about the Morfa Bay visit, however small, need clarification about anything or wish to share any further information with us, please don't hesitate in getting in touch – you can drop by to see your child's teacher at the end of the school day or arrange an appointment or email them:**

Mr Froggett: [sfroggett@yattonschoools.co.uk](mailto:sfroggett@yattonschoools.co.uk)

Mr Bertenshaw: [jbertenshaw@yattonschoools.co.uk](mailto:jbertenshaw@yattonschoools.co.uk)

Mrs Lilley: [nlilley@yattonschoools.co.uk](mailto:nlilley@yattonschoools.co.uk)

Mrs Travers: [jtravers@yattonschoools.co.uk](mailto:jtravers@yattonschoools.co.uk)

**Staffing**

We are planning to have the following staff team accompanying the children on this year's visit:

Mr Froggett (Trip Leader)

Mr Bertenshaw (Deputy Trip Leader)

Mrs Travers

Mrs Lilley (Mon-Wed) / Mrs Ralfs (Wed-Fri)

Ms Plested

Mrs Powell (Medical/First Aid)

Mrs Davis (Medical / First Aid)

Mrs Byrne

Mr Taylor

Mr Tony Bees (Community volunteer)

**Activities**

The children will be organised into activity groups for the week.

The main activities we are planning to do through the week are still to be finalised but will be chosen *from*:

- Body Boarding / Sea activities on Pendine Beach
- Climbing Wall / Zip Line / Abseiling / High Ropes course
- Mud Assault Course
- Beach Study / Rockpooling on Pendine Beach
- Mountain Biking
- Archery

- Bushcraft
- Orienteering

These may be subject to change due to weather conditions, for example. These activities will all be led by a trained instructor from Morfa Bay but all groups will be accompanied by at least one member of school staff. **Please contact us if you have any queries about what these activities involve or if you have any concerns about your child taking part in them.**

There will also be various activities organised for the pupils by Morfa Bay and/or Yatton staff in the evenings: e.g, evening walks, challenges, last-night disco, etc.

### **Dormitory Arrangements**

The children will be split between four main dormitories. We will sort the children into activity groups and dormitories based on preferences suggested by the children. They will be told their groups and shown their dormitories on arrival at Morfa Bay.

### **Departure and return**

- We will be leaving school at approx. 8.30 a.m on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October. Our transport is provided by Taf Valley coaches who have served us well for many years. There will be 2 coaches – signage and staff will let you / your child know which coach they will be on.
- **Children will need to bring a packed lunch with them as lunch is not provided by Morfa Bay on the Monday.** Please ensure this is in a disposable bag/container. **Please check that any food you send with your child does not include hazelnuts as we have a child with an allergy. Thank you.**
- The children will need to arrive at school with their luggage between **8.00 - 8.15 a.m** on Monday morning in order to give us time to load the coaches and check all medical/other details. Lunch and anything they need for the journey should be in a small bag / rucksack they can keep on the coach.
- You will need to go into the hall to deposit **all medication** (including travel sickness tablets for the return journey if necessary) your child may require with Mrs. Powell and Mrs. Davis, our main ‘first-aiders’ on camp. These **must** be clearly labelled with your child’s name on the box/bag.
- If your child suffers from travel sickness, please ensure they have taken their medication before we depart.
- We anticipate arriving back at school on Friday 8th October at approx. 4.00pm (subject to Friday pm traffic!). Please ensure that there is someone at school to collect your child and that they/we know who it will be, if it is not yourself. The office will be kept informed of our progress during our return journey, in case of any delays.

**Any major changes to these timings will be communicated via Twitter and the school website.**

### **Communication**

We will be asking the children to send a letter/ postcard home near the beginning of the week. Please make sure you provide your child with paper and a stamped addressed envelope or a stamped addressed post card to send home.

We will also endeavour to post updates on how we are getting on through our school Twitter feed / website. Morfa Bay also sometimes post updates on their Twitter feed and website ([www.morfabay.com](http://www.morfabay.com)).

### **Emergency contact numbers**

Should there be a need to contact us in **an emergency** we would appreciate it, if at all possible, that you relay messages through school on **01934 833554**. During out of school hours the contact number for Morfa Bay is **01994 453588**. Rest assured, we will contact you if we have any serious concerns about your child be it medical, extreme home sickness or any other reason.

### **Behaviour**

We would appreciate you working with us in emphasising the importance of high standards of behaviour whilst away. We want to ensure that everybody has a great time at Morfa Bay - that everyone is safe and

happy. We will continue to remind the children again before we leave how important it is that they follow instructions fully (for their own sake and each others' safety) and respect the feelings of other children at all times. **We have to emphasise that, if we feel a child is not responding safely to instructions or not behaving responsibly, we may have to ask a parent / carer to come and collect their child.**

We also need to mention that should we be especially concerned in advance of the trip that a child is not willing to follow adults' instructions or behave responsibly we may need to inform parents that we don't feel we are able to take the child away.

### **Covid-19**

We have re-assurances that Morfa Bay are following all current guidance and have expected measures in place regarding Covid – we will continue to check this if recommendations change – and we will, of course, follow our own risk assessment and take measures with regard to Covid guidelines, including enhanced hygiene, sanitising and cleaning throughout, consideration of social distancing and ventilation as much as possible. Children may wear masks on the coach if desired; adults will be wearing masks on the coach. If your child displays Covid symptoms when away we will, if you signed to give us permission, provide your child with a Lateral Flow Test. Should that show positive we will need to isolate them and call you as parents to come and collect them. **It is very important that you are available to come and collect your child as quickly as possible if this is the case. Please note:** If you do not give permission for your child to take a lateral flow test and they display symptoms whilst away we will need to isolate them and **ask you to collect them as soon as possible**. Please contact us if you would like more information on the measures we are taking with regard to Coronavirus.

### **What if my child gets ill or homesick?**

It is very common for some children to get homesick during their time away, especially when they are tired in the evenings. Usually in time and with some 'TLC' they come through this and have a great time. Also, on occasions, of course, children will fall ill. Just as we would do in school, if we are particularly concerned about your child, we will be in contact to talk it through with you – and will always let you know if we feel we need to take your child to a doctor. If your child is so poorly or upset that we feel they need to come home, you may need to come and collect them.

### **Other information**

We would appreciate the children **NOT** bringing lots of tuck with them. They may wish to bring **1 small bag** of sweets/chocolates that will be shared amongst their activity group during the week. This bag will be handed to their group leader on the first day at Morfa Bay.

The children do not *need* pocket money on this trip but there is a small shop at Morfa Bay which will be open one evening during the week for the children to purchase gifts or mementoes. The **maximum** amount of pocket money your child should bring with them is £5 – in change, please. **Please can your child bring the money in a named envelope or purse** - this should be handed in on **week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> September (by Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>)**.

Mobile phones are **not** allowed. We do not allow children to ring home because experience has proved that this can lead to homesickness amongst the group.

Hand held electronic gaming devices are also **not** allowed on this trip.

IPODs / MP3 players may be taken for use for listening to music, etc, **on the coach only** but are the sole responsibility of your child. They will be taken in for safe keeping on arrival.

Cameras are allowed; however, after consideration we have decided against dedicated video devices e.g. Go Pros. It is also useful if the camera (and camera case) is labelled with your child's name as they are items that are often left around when the children get engrossed in their activities.

Jewellery is inappropriate during an activity week such as this, so please ensure it is left at home (stud earrings may be worn as long as they can be removed or covered whilst participating in activities).

**Please** can we ask you to avoid sending your child with any 'valuables' (either of great sentimental or monetary value) as if these do get lost or damaged whilst away it can cause considerable upset or worry. It is also important to re-iterate that Morfa Bay is a wet / muddy activity week. The children do **not** need to bring specialist equipment and (apart, perhaps for an outfit for the disco) they do not need smart clothes – some clothing may not survive the experience!

PLEASE MAKE SURE ANY CLOTHES / TOWELS / OTHER ITEMS ARE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME. THEY ARE HARD TO RECOGNISE WHEN THEY ARE SOAKING WET OR COVERED IN MUD!!

Please also provide your child with a labelled black bin bag, in order to bring wet and muddy clothes home!

### **Essential Information Form**

Thank you for returning the Essential Information form. **It is important that you inform us before we leave for Morfa Bay of any new or additional information, especially medical/dietary information, contact details or any changes in circumstances that would be useful or important for us to know.**

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 6 / Morfa BayTeam

### **Kit List for Morfa Bay**

*The following is a guide to the kind of kit that you will require for an activity week at Morfa Bay Outdoor Centre. **Several activities include getting wet and very muddy: it is not the sort of place to bring new/best clothes!***

- One sleeping bag, pillow and pillowcase
- At least one waterproof anorak or cagoule
- Three warm sweatshirts/jumpers
- Three or four pairs of tracksuit bottoms or similar (waterproof trousers can be useful)
- Several pairs (at least three pairs recommended) of shoes/trainers (Not including Disco shoes!)

Plus One old pair of shoes/trainers for the assault course (Likely to be thrown away)

- Shorts and t-shirts
- Three large towels - Preferably dark in colour and NAMED!
- Pyjamas/nightie
- Underwear and socks – they will need **more than one set per day** to allow for wet/mud – suggest around 8 pairs of underwear and socks.
- Swimming costume/trunks/shorts (2 if possible)
- One set of smart(ish) clothes for disco
- Wetwear sandals, e.g. reefs/jellies (if you have them)
- Wellies
- Toilet bag, toiletries, brush/comb
- Three bin liners (Labelled) - To bring home all dirty/wet clothing!
- Small bag/rucksack for carrying swimming gear etc.

- One small plastic bottle for carrying drink
- Plastic mug/cup (Essential if you want a hot drink at night)

Sun protection, lip salve (for unexpected hot spells)

Warm hat and gloves (for the rather more predictable Welsh weather)

One stamped addressed postcard for sending home

Pencil/pen/writing pad

### **Other items**

Children may wish to bring - they are responsible for looking after ALL items.

- camera (named/labelled)
- torch
- cuddly toy
- books/magazines/comics for evening reading/quiet time

Jewellery should be kept to a minimum. It must be removed before each activity.

**Mobile phones are not to be brought on the visit.**

**Please use soft kit bags/holdalls rather than hard suitcases**, if possible. Make sure your child has a list of their belongings, as this will make it easier for them when they have to pack their bags on Friday.

**N.B. IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR ALL CLOTHING AND ALL OTHER ITEMS TO BE LABELLED AS THE MORFA BAY STAFF AND STAFF FROM SCHOOL CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ITEMS LOST OR MISLAID.**