

Maidenbower Junior School
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Headteacher: Mr S Pike BA (Ed) Hons NPQH

22nd October 2024
Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Year 4 Residential Trip to Lewes

I am writing to you with regards to the Year 4 Residential trip to Lewes which has now been booked for June 2025. The residential involves taking the children away for 3 days and 2 nights where they will stay at the South Downs Youth Hostel with full board and lodging. The hostel opened in 2013 and is set in a glorious location, about 100m away from Southease Railway Station. We are always delighted with the hostel and our stay as it provides excellent value for money.

The residential offers fantastic opportunities for the children to experience, including a visit to Lewes Castle and Battle Abbey which both include a guided tour and a number of workshops to support our history topics. The children also get to explore some of the beautiful scenery as we take a great walk up to the top of the hill close to the youth hostel.

During our stay at the youth hostel, we have sole occupancy which is extremely reassuring for staff, parents and the children. The accommodation is excellent for the price compared to other locations investigated. The sleeping arrangements are that the children sleep in rooms of 2, 4 or 6. All rooms have access to shower rooms located on the same floor. It also includes a very modern dining hall, lounge area and a large meeting and play room. The immediate grounds are lovely and allow the children to play outside if the weather is nice enough.

The youth hostel centre is able to accommodate us in three groups of up to 50 children at a time. The dates of the residentials are shown below. At this stage we are not able to inform you of which group your child will be in, as we will need to await final numbers.

The dates for the Year 4 Residential to Lewes are as follows:

- Group 1: Wednesday 4th June – Friday 6th June
- Group 2: Monday 9th June – Wednesday 11th June
- Group 3: Wednesday 11th June – Friday 13th June

I do very much hope that your child will be able to come on the residential as it provides a great experience for them being away from home, as well as help to develop their own independence. A presentation will be shared with you prior to the trip, which will outline all the relevant information, including the sharing of the itinerary and kit list.

The total cost of the trip will be a voluntary contribution of £160 which would include the cost of the coach journeys, return train travel to Lewes, board and lodging at the YHA and all off site visits, activities and workshops. We must advise that in the event of not receiving enough interest, we may be unable to proceed with the trip.

If you would like your child to go on the Year 4 Residential Trip to Lewes, please pay a non-refundable deposit of £60 by Friday 22nd November to secure a place for your child. You can pay by credit or debit card online through School Money. You are very welcome to pay the full amount for the visit straight away or you can stagger payments once the initial deposit has been paid, however full payment will need to be made prior to the trip.

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If you have any questions about the trip, please do not hesitate to contact me, or class teachers may be able to answer your questions.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Stansfield Jones
Acting Deputy Head