Maidenbower Junior School Harvest Road, Maidenbower, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 7RA

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Headteacher: Mr S Pike BA (Ed) Hons NPQH

20th October 2025

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 2026. The residential involves taking the children away for 3 days and 2 nights where they will stay at the <u>South Downs Youth Hostel</u> with full board and lodging. We are always delighted with the hostel and our stay as it provides excellent value for money.

I do very much hope that your child will be able to come on the residential as it provides a invaluable development opportunities and experiences. The children who take part have so much fun and are always very proud of their own independence in staying away from home. The trip offers fantastic opportunities for the children, including a visit to <a href="Lewes Castle">Lewes Castle</a> (via a short train journey) and <a href="Battle Abbey">Battle Abbey</a> which both include a number of workshops to support our history topics. The children also get to explore some of the beautiful South Downs scenery as we go on a walk up to the top of the ltford Hill close to the youth hostel.



South Downs YHA



Battle Abbey visit



Day trip to Lewes



Itford Hill walk

During our stay at the youth hostel, we have sole occupancy which is extremely reassuring for pupils, parents and staff. Children sleep in rooms of 2-6 beds. All rooms have access to shower rooms located on the same floor. There is a very modern dining hall that serves great food, as well as spacious inside lounges and large green spaces outside for the children to play.

The youth hostel centre is able to accommodate us in three groups of up to 45 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 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June Group 2: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June Group 3: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June

A presentation is included with this email to give you more information. Further details (e.g. confirmed itinerary, menu choices and kit list) will be shared with you closer to the trip.

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The total cost of the trip will be a voluntary contribution of £170 which includes 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 <u>Friday 21st November</u> 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.

You may find that your child expresses some doubts or worries about going on this trip, and especially being away from home. This is normal! I would urge you to encourage your child to come with us, as there are not many opportunities like this that come along. On this trip, they can start to develop their independence with so many friends and trusted adults close at hand to support them. If you have any questions about the trip, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely

David Footman Williams

Deputy Head