



*Be strong and  
courageous.....for  
the Lord your God is  
with you*

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Year 1 Visit to school by Zoo Lab  
5<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

As part of our science topic on animals the children will be taking part in an animal handling session hosted by Zoo Lab. This hands-on, animal-handling workshop experience brings pupils face to face with classification. It is all part of an experiential and interactive learning experience in which introduces ZooLab animals that include vertebrates and invertebrates. They will explore different classes of animal so they can uncover their differences and similarities themselves.

**It is important to let me know if your child has any allergies regarding animals so that I can tell the zoo not to bring them.**

The cost of the session will be **£8.60** per child and we are requesting this as a voluntary contribution. Please can we request that voluntary payment for this trip be made via Parent Pay. Please do not send in cash or cheques; this payment will be set up on your Parent Pay account. We would ask that payment is made as soon as possible and by the latest **13<sup>th</sup> October 2025**. If you do not currently hold a Parent Pay account, please visit the school office so that we can reissue you with a letter containing your login details.

Please be advised that we will only be able to go ahead with the trip if there are sufficient voluntary contributions. If you anticipate any difficulties in making a contribution, please contact the Head teacher; the matter will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

**Requesting financial contributions for educational visits**

**School Trips – Voluntary Contributions**

It has been brought to the school's attention that perhaps some parents are unsure why schools ask for a voluntary contribution but then contact parents when they have not contributed. Our letters are written in a way that does not exclude a child because a parent is unable or unwilling to pay for a trip. Below is an explanation as to why we promote school trips but also why we ask for voluntary contributions.

**The value and importance of educational visit:**

Learning outside the classroom is widely recognised as a valuable and effective means of extending pupil knowledge, enriching pupil understanding, and promoting personal and social development. Ofsted also acknowledge the importance of quality learning experiences outside the classroom for raising pupil attainment. Consequently, this school promotes and encourages the organisation of educational visits for all its pupils, and it is hoped that parents will also recognise the value and importance of these visits, and give their full support.



**Cost of the Visit:**

The school believes wholeheartedly in the value of these experiences, and subsidises the cost of all visits as much as possible in an attempt to ensure that these opportunities are accessible and affordable to all. However, the school seldom has the financial resources to pay the full costs. Consequently, a voluntary contribution is normally requested from parents/guardians to make up the shortfall. This contribution is genuinely voluntary, and neither you nor your child will be treated differently if you are unable or choose not to contribute. **However, please note that without all such voluntary contributions, visits may have to be cancelled, as the school is not in a position to provide further financial support.**

Yours sincerely,



Miss Plume  
Year 1 Class Teacher

