



Dear Parents,

This week saw the first of our residential trips with Year 4 enjoying a night away at the Austerfield Study Centre – I hope the children had a great time! I am so pleased that, as a school, we provide so many opportunities for children to enjoy the fun, excitement and learning opportunities that come from time away. In two weeks' time Year 5 will be going to Thornbridge and in June Year 6 are off to Whitby. I would like to thank all the staff who give up their personal time to enable these trips to take place.

Local Elections

On Thursday next week, local elections are being held with voting taking place in the Scout Hall. Parents of children who access breakfast or after school club in the Scout Hall will already have been contacted about the implications of this.

To provide parking spaces for voters, staff will be parking in the infant playground. Vehicles will also need to access the school car park throughout the day, including during normal drop off and pick up times and The Drive would normally be closed to traffic. Please be extra-vigilant during these times.

Attendance mini-series - Term Time Leave

As the summer arrives, I am seeing a significant increase in the number of holiday requests for term time leave. Only very rarely can we approve time off school during term time and an example of this would be for a child to attend a close family wedding or a funeral. For this reason, holiday requests are very rarely, if ever, approved. Absences of five days or more will likely be met with a local authority fine. The rules on this are changing soon and more information on these changes will be shared in the coming weeks.

Most importantly though, missing time from school means missing important learning opportunities. One week for a term-time family holiday will mean that your child has missed 25 hours of learning – time that they will never get back. They may however still face questions on this content in tests in the future, or may struggle with future learning that builds upon what they have missed. I appreciate your support with this.

Mr Chris Thomas
Headteacher

