

Ghyllside Primary School

Gillinggate, Kendal,

Cumbria.

LA9 4JB

Tel: 01539 814930

Email: admin@ghyllside.cumbria.sch.uk

Headteacher : Mr.H.B.Davies (BA. Hons)

Wednesday 11th July 2018

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY

Y3 Grasmere Residential: Thursday 16th May 2019 - Friday 17th May 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Exciting News! Following the resounding success of this new one night residential visit for our Y3s, we have just made a booking with YHA Grasmere (Butharlp Howe) for a 2 day/1 night visit in May 2019. This letter provides a brief outline of the visit.

Why are we going?

In the Summer term, our art and geography projects are designed to engage the children with our local landscape and undertake activities that may lead to them receiving their John Muir Award for conservation. With this in mind, we want to “launch” our summer term project with this visit.

Why YHA?

For many years, I organised the Y5 Derwentwater residential through YHA, my own family use YHA extensively across the UK and our Y6's also stay in the Edinburgh City YHA on their summer term visit. The reason for this is that they provide amazingly cheap and immaculately presented accommodation. Grasmere hostel has all of the period charm of a Lake District Victorian mansion with all of the clean, bright facilities of a modern youth hostel (they've changed a lot since I was a child!). As you would imagine, it is also beautifully situated on the edge of the village with amazing views over the village and surrounding fells.

How much?

This year the total cost of the visit was £40. This included: coach transport, Thursday tea, Friday breakfast, Friday lunch, one night's accommodation and a conservation workshop. We have the costs from the YHA for 2019 but we can't actually book a coach this far in advance so are unable to calculate the exact cost of the visit. Use this year's £40 as a good guide!

What will we do?

Thursday 16th May

Depart Ghyllside at approx. 9.30am and travel to Ambleside by coach. The coach will drop us off with our hillwalking rucksacks and continue to Grasmere to drop our overnight bags at the hostel. We then enjoy a hill walk from Ambleside over Loughrigg Fell to Grasmere. We will have a picnic lunch en route and tea/cake/ice cream at a cafe in Grasmere before arriving at the hostel in time for tea. The evening will be spent playing out in the beautiful grounds.

Friday 17th May

After an amazing breakfast, we will carry out conservation work at the hostel. This year we cleared beech growth and planted an area of wild flower meadow with Gareth Thomas (Woodmatters and dad of Orin and Maya). We will then enjoy a picnic lunch at the hostel before returning by coach to Ghyllside for approximately 3.00pm.

Why are we finding out about this so early?

The hostel requires definite numbers and a 20% deposit by Friday 14th September. Obviously this is very early in the new term so we wanted to give you plenty of notice so that you can discuss this as a family over the holidays. Ideally, you can find some of the children and their parents in the current Year 3 classes to talk to before you make a decision. I would also recommend that you visit the hostel over the summer holidays if you want to have a look. The staff are absolutely lovely and would gladly show you round. The YHA website is also very informative.

Information Evening

On Friday 7th September, there will be a short information meeting for you to attend. The meeting will start at 3.30pm and finish at 4.00pm. It will take place in Miss Crowley's room. It will be a chance to look at some film/photographs, find out a bit more about the hostel, look at the itinerary and ask questions.

At the information evening, we will give out booking forms for the visit. **If you want your child to participate, the booking form will have to be completed and returned with a £15.00 non-refundable deposit by Thursday 13th September 2018.** We must point out that we cannot accept any letters returned after this date. Letters that are brought into school after Thursday 13th September will be returned. The child's name can be placed on a waiting list in the event that another can't go but this didn't happen this year - they all wanted to go!

Hopefully this information is useful and gives you plenty of notice to discuss this visit.

Many thanks,

Michelle Crowley
Visit Leader

Y3 One Night Residential Visit: YHA Butharlyp Howe, Grasmere **Thursday 16th – Friday 17th May 2018**

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOU TO KEEP:

Friday 7th September 2018

Information Evening

Thursday 13th September 2018

Booking form and £15.00 non-refundable deposit
returned to school

When you book a place on the trip, you will receive:

- Important dates for final payments of the balance
 - Kit list
 - Optional weekly payment scheme
-

KIT LIST GRASMERE 2019

A large part of each day will be spent out on the fells or in the forest. Due to the changeable weather in the Lakes you are likely to become cold, hot, wet and/or sunburned all in the same day. Here is a list of things you are advised to bring for three days in the outdoors.

REMEMBER: As we said at the meeting, don't rush out and buy new things unless you want to; pre-loved borrows and swaps are best. Items in bold are absolutely essential to keep you safe, well and happy in the outdoors:

- Wellies or old trainers for wearing in the hostel grounds/playing out in the evenings
- Slippers
- **Walking boots (well worn in) or very sturdy walking shoes with rugged grip suitable for hill walking on wet grass and rock**
- **Waterproof coat**
- **Waterproof trousers**
- **Hat + spare**
- **Gloves + spare**
- **Thermal base layer (moisture wicking) if possible – failing this football shirts make good thermal base layers!**
- Three jumpers/fleeces
- Three t shirts (long or short sleeve dependent on weather forecast)
- Two pairs trousers (joggers/tracksuit bottoms) suitable for hill walking/forest (jeans not suitable for outdoor activities)
- Set of clothes for evening if desired
- Three pairs of thick socks
- Three pairs ordinary socks
- 4 changes of underwear
- Sleepwear, toiletries and towel
- Large black bin liner with name label (to take home gift of wet/muddy clothes)
- Plasters, tissues, toiletries, torch, sun hat, sun cream (yes really!)
- Prescribed medicines to be labelled and handed to staff prior to departure
- Refillable plastic drinks bottle
- Rucksack (day sack variety suitable for hill walking)
- £5.00 maximum (in a named purse/wallet) to purchase cake/ice cream in a café in Grasmere after our hill walk. This is optional!



