

'A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together'

## Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary School

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19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Residential update

Although Coronavirus restrictions are expected to be gradually lifted within the next few months, current government guidance advises against all educational visits. The advice for schools is that large gatherings should be avoided, and class bubbles are to be maintained wherever possible. We have therefore taken the difficult decision to formally cancel all residential visits for our Key Stage two pupils this year. We understand that this news will be a huge disappointment to your child, and we do hope to be able to resume these visits next year.

Please do not be too disappointed as we have some exceptionally good news. We have planned an exciting, alternative experience that will benefit all children in school. The event is called 'School Fest' and will involve a whole week of exciting outdoor challenges, incorporating physical games and expressive arts activities, all being held on school premises. As a staff we are aware that education is more than the acquisition of knowledge, by improving young people's skills, values, relationships and personal development we can significantly enhance learning and achievement. We see huge benefits to our children from hosting School Fest and hope you will agree that this event will create memorable learning experiences for all involved.

School Fest will be held the week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 will undertake several daytime activities over the week, and years 3-6 will enjoy multiple daytime challenges and one overnight camp per year group. Activities will have a strong emphasis on problem solving and encouraging collaboration but ultimately, will be an opportunity to create memorable learning experiences and to have fun with their friends. We will operate School Fest with a covid-secure system, following the rules of social distancing and respecting class bubbles.

The scouts have been extremely generous and have offered to loan their tents for the children's sleeping arrangements, additionally they are permanently donating a large bell tent, which will be erected on the school field, for outdoor activities. Breakfast will be served in the prefab and a local company will provide individual pizzas for the children's evening meals. All food allergies and intolerances will be catered for. Children will be required to provide their own sleeping bag or bedding.

We have multiple committed staff who have volunteered to support the School Fest provision but as you can imagine, this event will require some significant planning, if you or someone you know would kindly donate some workshop time for a group of children or have any skills that you feel will benefit staff in the organisation of School Fest, such as assisting with the erecting of tents, please email the school office, [admin@bunburyaldersey.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bunburyaldersey.cheshire.sch.uk) or [assistantprincipal@rcsat.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:assistantprincipal@rcsat.cheshire.sch.uk). We are particularly looking for anyone who has skills with art, drama, music, dance, storytelling as well as outdoor activities. All activities will be supported and accompanied by our teaching staff so at no point would you be left in charge of a group of children.



There will be a small charge for this event, this will cover the cost of food, resources and hiring of equipment. The cost will be:

**£10 per child** for children in Reception and Year 1 and 2

**£20 per child** for children in Year 3,4,5 and 6

Further details surrounding the event, including how to consent and make payment will be communicated in due course.

Many thanks for your continued support.

*Emma Armitage*

Acting Assistant Principal/Reception Teacher