

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Diocese of Clifton

Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through
Faith, Hope, and Love



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Headteacher: Dr Ewan Johnson

22nd September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Y6 Residential to St Briavels Castle 19th – 23rd October 2026

This year's residential is fast approaching and we're all getting very excited! Please make sure that the medical forms that we sent out are completed and returned to us as soon as possible. The staff accompanying the children will be Mrs Knight, Mrs Pickering, Mrs Hamlin (Monday to Wednesday) and Mrs Gasan (Wednesday to Friday).

We will leave school on Monday 19th October at 9.30am, the children can come to school dressed in non-school uniform (clothes that they can do activities in). They will need a packed lunch and drink in a plastic bag (no glass bottles please) for that day. We will return to school on Friday 23rd October at approximately **2.30pm**, depending on the traffic. If there is any change to this, a text will be sent out to parents. **Please can you let the office know if you will not be able to collect your child at that time.**

Luggage - 1 suitcase or holdall (named) and a small rucksack. I have included 2 kit lists on the next pages – as we have a day trip during the week offsite. Old clothes are the best and please no jeans – several pairs of trainers would be great. Long sleeved tops/jumpers are important too as they are required for some activities. Please can you provide your child with a couple of labelled black bin liners for their dirty clothes. The school cannot be held responsible for loss or damage to any personal items so **please ensure items are labelled.**

Medicine - if your child needs medication please ensure it is in a named bag and given to Mrs Hamlin with dosage instructions before the group departs on Monday. If your child is asthmatic please ensure they have a named inhaler with them at all times, a spare can be given to Mrs Hamlin, if you so wish.

Pocket money – This needs to be given to Mrs Knight on Monday morning. £10.00 per child (optional) to be in a named purse/wallet or envelope (coins only please); pocket money will be kept with a staff member and given to the children, if and when needed.

Electrical devices including mobile phones and cameras – not permitted. Staff will take plenty of photographs and, if possible (Wi-Fi and signal is a challenge in a castle!) send out images and

messages. If there are any issue with uploading, once we have returned home, I shall upload all the pictures that we take.

Mrs Knight/the school will send messages to keep you up to date with the group's activities. The school office will be the first port of call, who can contact the group in an emergency. Thank you for returning the medicine/emergency contact sheet. If between now and the trip any of the details provided change, please let me know.

We will be having a meeting to answer any questions and run through more details on **Thursday 1st October at 3.30pm** in the Year 6 classroom. To support parents attending the meeting, staff will supervise the Year 6 children and younger siblings in the hall. If you're unable to attend the meeting I will send out the PowerPoint that I am using. In the meantime, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to come and see me or drop me an email through admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Joni Knight
(Year 6 teacher, Writing and Reading Lead)

G:\Winword\Residential\Y6 residential final letter to parents

Example Kit List (2 night / 3 day visit)

We want you to be comfortable and happy throughout your time on the trip so therefore it's important you pack the right clothing and equipment. Your visit will involve a lot of time outdoors whatever the weather, so there is a possibility of your clothes getting wet and muddy. This list will be more than adequate to suit a 3 day visit so please adjust the contents to suit longer or shorter visits.

General Clothing

- 2-3 pairs of walking/thick socks
- 2-3 long sleeved fleeces or sweaters
- 2-3 warm shirts, T-shirts or thermal tops
- 2 pairs of trainers, 1 for normal use and 1 old pair for outdoor activities
- 2-3 pairs of trousers, tracksuit bottoms are ideal. (Jeans are not suitable for activities)
- Gloves or mitts, hat and scarf
- 1 warm coat (fleece jacket is ideal)



If you have these, please bring them with you:

- Waterproof jacket
- Water proof trousers with taped seams
- Wellies
- Walking boots



Clothes for evenings

A set of clothes for social activities in the evening



Other essentials

- Water bottle (1 litre if possible)
- Lunch box
- Several changes of underwear
- Socks (not for activities)
- A good sized towel
- Wash kit
- Tissues
- Pyjamas or night clothes
- Indoor shoes/slippers
- Rucksack



Other useful items

- Torch
- Lip balm
- Bring old/cheap clothing
- Lots of thin layers are better than one thick layer
- A hat is important!



Top tips

- Take a look at the weather forecast before you leave home/school
- Plastic bags (no holes!) will be useful to put wet clothes in and to line your rucksack if it rains



And last but not least - have fun!



Kit list for Wednesdays offsite activity:



Kit List for Canoe / Kayak Trip/Session



Tips for your river trip

To Wear:

- Old trainers or similar (something you can swim in and will stay on your feet)
- Waterproofs (at least an anorak in case it rains, ideally waterproof trousers too)
- Warm top (even in summer, if the sun goes in it can get cold)
- Warm trousers (avoid jeans if possible)
- Hat (in summer a baseball cap or similar and if cold a woolly hat)
- Gloves (in cold weather)

To take (dry barrel for canoeing/dry bag for kayaking):

- Spare clothes
- Towel
- Drink (soft drink or water. For full day trips at least 1 litre per person)
- Food (biscuits etc are good. Try to avoid fresh items like chicken, fish etc that could spoil in the hot sun). We can supply ration packs if required.
- Any medication and allergy medicine (i.e. inhalers, epipens etc)
- Spare trainers or boots (for after the activity)

We provide dry barrels/bags and dry bags so you can keep your spare kit dry.

- ✓ *If you wear glasses it's a good idea to tie some string to them.*
- ✓ *If it's summer, then sun screen is a good idea.*