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Headteacher: Matthew Dampier



Dear Parents,

We are delighted to inform you about an upcoming educational visit for those children in Years 3 & 4. To further develop the children's understanding of what life was like as a child in Britain during World War 2, we will be taking the children on a WW2 – evacuee themed – steam railway journey on the Watercress Railway Line, Alresford.

We already have an evacuee day in school on this theme, where the children are billeted in school then sent to their new classes as evacuees – more details on this to follow. This trip will give real, first-hand experience as to how the evacuees travelled to their new homes and villages during the war. This exciting trip will form part of our WW2 (Home Front) / D-Day topic and will be an invaluable experience in terms of motivating, memorable learning. Children will be asked to dress as evacuees for the day and find out what it might have been like to be evacuated.

We will arrive at Alresford station where children will wait on the platform until it's time to board the steam train. We will then travel to Ropley station. Here, children will experience what it was like to be 'billeted'. After, they will visit the education centre and take part in two workshops: 'Make do and Mend' (learning about how clothes and household objects were repaired) and 'Meet an Evacuee'. This unique opportunity allows them the chance to hear what life as an evacuee was like from a real life evacuee volunteer. After a picnic lunch we will then make a round trip on the train up to Alton and back to Alresford where we will make our way back to school via coach. We feel this exciting day will be a fantastic opportunity for children to understand life during World War II and we will be support their learning at school

To complement this visit, we will also be taking the children to the newly refurbished D-day Museum in Southsea on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July** (more details to follow shortly). We will also be holding an evacuee day at school on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June** (more details to follow).

Due to the numbers that the train can accommodate, each class will go on separate days:

**Droxford Base: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

**Meonstoke Base: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

**Hambledon Base: Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

Children should come to school in their costume at the usual time (please see attached information) and bring a packed lunch. We will be leaving Alresford Station on the coach to return to school by 3.30.

We have not been on this trip for four years and unfortunately, the price has increased by £2.50 because of transport costs. This year's trip, which covers entry fee, the workshops, coach travel and the amazing ride on a steam train, will be £19.00. Please complete the permission slip below and return it to school no later than **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022**.

Thank you, as always for your support,

The Year 3 and 4 team

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### **Year 3 / 4 Educational Visit to the Watercress Line**

*Please return by Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May*

Child's Name ..... Learning Base .....

Please tick and annotate where appropriate.

I give permission for my child to participate to go on the day trip to the Watercress Line.  
(Droxford Base - Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June / Meonstoke Base - Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June  
Hambleton Base - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June)

I enclose a voluntary contribution of £19.00 (*cheques payable to HCC*)

I will pay online

Signed ..... Date.....

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