



HILLCROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Francis

23rd January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 4 Spring Term Visits & Activities

Saxons in the Meon Valley, Hampshire

As part of our Anglo Saxon topic this term, we have arranged a visit to the Meon Valley on **Wednesday 1st February (Half of Holly Class and Elm Class) and Thursday 2nd February (Birch Class and the second half of Holly Class) 2017**. This is a fantastic trip during which the children will be able to become Anglo Saxons for the day and learn more about their way of life. Children will have the opportunity to build a sandbag arch similar to the rare arch in the Saxon church of nearby Corhampton. They will weave mini-hurdles with willow, while learning about coppiced woods used by Saxons to build homes and fences. Also, they will explore the site's plants, herbs and 'hedges', and they will see how people then and now value biodiversity in the landscape. Finally, the children will hear about the evidence left behind by Saxon settlements and consider what impact the buildings on our site have on the land and what evidence will be left for future generations.

We will be travelling to the Meon Valley by coach. As we will be leaving promptly, all children will need to be school **by 8.30am** and will be collected by their class teachers from the back playground. We aim to return to school **by 3.45 pm**. The children will need to bring a packed lunch to school on this day, in their Hillcross Rucksack which should include a disposable water bottle (no glass bottles).

We will need a few parent volunteers to accompany us on the trip for the day. If you are interested, please speak to your child's class teacher. Please note you will require a DBS (previously CRB) or List 99 check before the day of the visit.

Freshwater Theatre – Drama Workshop

During the second half of the Spring term, **on Wednesday 8th March**, Freshwater Theatre Company will be visiting our school so children can learn more about Electricity and light through hands on experiences. They will have the opportunity to use drama activities, such as role play and tableaux, to explore the topic. During the session, they will be visited by an 'eccentric scientist', and the children have to show their knowledge and enthusiasm about science, and pass tasks like outwitting a disgruntled monster to save the Exploratorium science machine from imploding!

You are invited to make a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of your child taking part in the educational visits detailed above. The total cost of visits and activities for the Spring term is **£24**. We confirm that the contribution represents our estimate of the costs shared equally amongst all pupils. No child will be excluded from the visit through an inability to pay, but if there are insufficient contributions then the visit may have to be cancelled. Please come and speak to us if you are having any difficulties in making this payment.

All contributions and permissions must be given via ParentPay by **Thursday 9th February 2017**.

We look forward to an exciting, enjoyable and informative term.

Yours sincerely,

Freya Patel
Year 4 Class Teachers

Alaina Bettridge

Lucy Kelsall

