



Tuesday 20th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to be writing to you to share the details of next year's Year 5 and 6 residential trip to Mendip Lodge. We are really excited about the opportunity to take the children away for a few days of adventure, challenge and, most importantly, lots of fun!

The dates of the trip are Monday 17th May 2027 – Thursday 20th May 2027. We will be staying at Mendip Lodge, Lyncombe Drive, Winscombe, BS25 5PQ.

The children will have exclusive use of the venue for the duration of our stay, giving us a fantastic opportunity to enjoy the facilities together as a school community. The trip is all-inclusive, with accommodation, meals, activities and all of our planned experiences included within the cost.

The children will be involved in a busy and exciting programme of activities at Mendip Lodge, giving them opportunities to challenge themselves, develop new skills and work together as a team. Activities will include rock climbing, paddleboarding, assault course, archery, night-time tobogganing – an exciting evening activity that we are sure the children will remember for a long time and film and board game evenings.

As well as the activities at Mendip Lodge, we will also have two exciting days out. On our way to Mendip Lodge, we will stop at West-super-Mare, where the children will have the opportunity to explore the beach and enjoy some time in the arcades. This will be a lovely way to begin our residential and give the children the chance to spend time together before arriving at the lodge. We will also have a full day exploring Cheddar Gorge, where the children will experience some of the area's fantastic attractions and scenery. The day will include:

- Crazy Golf
- A visit to Gough's Cave
- A visit to Cox's Cave
- Seeing Jacob's Ladder
- Completing the Gorge Walk

This will provide a fantastic opportunity for the children to explore an area of the UK that may be unfamiliar to them, while also experiencing some of the geography, history and natural features of the Mendip Hills.

Residential trips provide children with experiences that are difficult to recreate within the classroom. They give children the opportunity to become more independent, try things outside of their usual comfort zone and develop their confidence in a different environment. Throughout the residential, the children will be encouraged to develop their co-operation, confidence, resilience, responsibility, self-discipline, decision-making and consideration for others. They will have opportunities to support one another, overcome challenges and celebrate each other's successes. Of course, there will also be plenty of opportunities for laughter, fun and making memories with their friends!

We appreciate that the cost of school trips can be a significant expense for families. We have worked hard to secure a residential that offers the children a fantastic range of experiences while keeping the cost as manageable as possible.

The total cost of the residential is £399 per child. To secure a place on the trip, an initial £40 deposit must be paid via ParentPay by 31st October 2026.

Please note that the deposit is non-refundable (unless there is insufficient interest for the trip to go ahead). Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, so we would encourage you to make the deposit payment by the deadline if your child would like to attend.

Payment Deadline	Amount
31/10/26	£40
30/11/26	£95
31/12/26	£55
31/01/27	£100
20/02/27	£109

I would also like to take the opportunity to remind families about the fantastic funding opportunities available through the Kingstone Parish Educational Charity Trust, of which Mrs Preece is a trustee.

Funding is available to families who are residents within the ecclesiastical area of the parishes of Kingstone, Clehonger, Eaton Bishop, Allensmore or Thruxton.

I would strongly encourage eligible families to consider applying for funding. Please note you are only able to apply once per pupil. If your child is in Year 5 and you apply this year, you will be unable to apply next year.

Applications should be sent directly to: The Hollies, Clehonger, Hereford, HR2 9SD.

The next meeting where applications will be considered is 18th March 2027. Applications must be submitted at least 2 weeks before this date. If you would like further information regarding this or an application form, please contact the school office.

As we are still some way away from the residential, we have not yet finalised all of the staffing arrangements. These details will be shared with families closer to the time.

Kingstone, Hereford HR2 9HJ • Tel 01981 250338

Email: ktpsadmin@kingstone-thruxton.hereford.sch.uk • www.kingstone-thruxton.hereford.sch.uk

Head of School: Amy Preece

I will be organising the trip and will remain in close communication with you over the coming months. We will also hold an information meeting closer to the departure date, where we will provide further information about the residential, including what children will need to bring, arrangements for medication and any other practical details.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

We are incredibly excited about this residential and the opportunities it will provide for the children. We hope it will be a wonderful trip filled with adventure, laughter, new experiences and memories that the children will treasure for many years to come.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ms K O'Callaghan-James'.

Kirsty O'Callaghan-James
Year 6 Teacher