

29th April 2010

Dear Parents / Carers

As an end of year reward and 'treat' we have planned a visit to Drayton Manor Theme Park on Wednesday 21st July 2010, the last day of the school year for our Year 8 pupils as a pleasant way to finish their time at Kirkburton. Drayton Manor, near Tamworth in Staffordshire has grown over the years into one of the best UK attractions for children. As well as world class rides and thrills, there is a zoo with over 100 different species from around the world. The Park offers many educational opportunities linked with Science, Mathematics and Technology.

We have found in recent years that traffic on the M1 on the return journey has delayed us significantly so to maximise the use of time, and to give better value for money, we are proposing to leave school at 08.15 and then leave Drayton Manor a little earlier in the afternoon, at 15.00 enabling us to be back at school by 17.30.

We sincerely hope that alternative arrangements can be made for your son/daughter to be at school for 08.00 on this day.

If these arrangements cause any difficulties for you then please do not hesitate to contact me at school. If pupils cannot arrive at 08.00 we will have to revert back to leaving at 09.00 but this will mean less time being spent at the park. If this is the case, I will advise you at a later date.

This visit has been organised successfully for the past three years and a full risk assessment has been carried out. Coaches have seatbelts fitted and pupils will be required to use them.

When we return to school at 17.30 I would be grateful if you could ensure that your child can get home safely. If you are collecting your child from school at that time, please do not park in the bus turnaround.

There may be a limited number of (free) places for parents who would like to accompany us and help with the general supervision of pupils. If you would be interested in coming, please complete the relevant section of the reply slip.

To help to meet the full cost of this visit, which is partly subsidised by School Funds, we are requesting voluntary contributions of £21.00, which includes transport and admission. This amount may be paid in instalments if preferred (see reply slip for details). Under the terms of the 1988 Education Act there is no obligation to contribute and no pupil will be omitted for non-contribution. However, unless a substantial majority of parents are willing to offer voluntary contributions, the trip may not take place. Some financial assistance is available in particular circumstances, for example for families in receipt of Income Support. For further details please contact me directly.

We are due to arrive at Drayton Manor at 10.00 approximately. After showing the pupils the meeting area, they will be allowed to go around the park in groups of fives or six. We will insist on certain safety procedures and expectations being adhered to (see Code of Conduct) and I would be most grateful if you would go through these with your son/daughter. Staff will be available throughout the day at the designated meeting point as well as circulating with pupils themselves.

Pupils do not need to wear school uniform but clothing should be sensible and appropriate, including a waterproof (this can be left on the 'bus on arrival depending on the weather), warm clothing and comfortable footwear (it's a big site and the visit will involve plenty of walking). Sun hats and sun block may be advisable, again depending on the weather - being optimistic!)

Pupils should bring a packed lunch including a drink, in disposable packaging (no glass bottles please). Pupils who have free school meals can pre-order if required and collect packed lunches before departure in the morning.

There are plenty of cafeterias, snack bars and gift shops, but there is no need for pupils to bring any other money unless they want to buy an ice-cream, extra drink or souvenir. If money is brought it should be kept to a limit of £10. Cameras, mobile phones and personal stereos may be brought but it is emphasised that pupils will be entirely responsible for these.

It is very important that we are made aware of any medical conditions that your child has that may affect their ability to participate in this visit. We will also need to be notified of any medication that your child is taking at the time of the visit.

Naturally we intend that this visit will pass without incident. If there is an emergency the school will be the first point of contact for both the party leader and parents and act as an intermediary should messages need to be relayed. However, I also require you to provide at least one emergency contact number on the reply slip that can be used directly if circumstances dictate.

School Journey insurance cover is provided via Kirklees Council (scheme 2) including accident cover and third party liability.

Finally, please note that as we want this visit to be an enjoyable day out for all concerned, participation is dependent upon good conduct between now and the date of departure, both in school and on the school buses. Any pupil whose conduct or attitude gives cause for concern will not be allowed to take part.

Thank you in advance of your help and support. Please return the reply slip below to school before Friday 14th May 2010.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Martin
Pupil Development Manager

KIRKBURTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

YEAR 8 VISIT TO DRAYTON MANOR - WEDNESDAY 21ST JULY 2010

I give permission for my son / daughter : of

Class to participate in the visit to Drayton Manor and:

I enclose a voluntary contribution of £21.00 towards the costs

would like to pay by 3 weekly instalments of as follows:

by 14th May - £7.00

by 28th May - £7.00

by 18th June - £7.00

I would like to accompany the visit if there is a place (*please tick if appropriate*)

I would like to pre-order a packed lunch for my child (free school meals only)

Signed Parent

Please complete the following details:

Pupil's name: d.o.b.

Address:

.....

.....

Emergency Contact numbers:

1. Name Relationship

Telephone No(s).

2. Name Relationship

Telephone No(s).

Relevant medical information:

.....

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YEAR 8 VISIT TO DRAYTON MANOR - WEDNESDAY 21ST JULY 2010

CODE OF CONDUCT

Safety is of paramount importance and it is important that the following expectations and procedures are adhered to:

- Choose your groupings carefully ensuring that you all want to go on similar rides.
- You will need to think about each other throughout the day. Do not leave anyone isolated. You will need to wait for others if they need to use the toilet or queue up for food.
- Keep away from strangers!! Return with your group immediately to the meeting point if you have any concerns.
- Keep well away from other groups of pupils if you are concerned about their behaviour. Again report back to the meeting point if you have any concerns.
- If someone gets hurt then report to the meeting point immediately. If it is serious then two pupils should stay with the injured / ill person and the others return to the member of staff at the meeting point.
- Look after your money. Keep this secure in a wallet or purse and do not 'flash' around.
- Read all the safety notices associated with each ride.
- DO NOT GO ON ANY ACTIVITY ON THE LAKE.
- Excellent behaviour will be required. Drayton Manor has tightened up greatly on unruly behaviour and will have no hesitation in removing pupils from the park. This includes queue jumping and behaviour that is intimidating.
- Shoplifting is taken very seriously and a system is in operation where pupils are held by security until both the police and parents have been contacted. After the formalities have been carried out, parents will be contacted and will be required to collect their son / daughter from the park.
- Meet promptly at the meeting point when you are required to do so. If this means leaving a queue to arrive on time then this needs to be done.

**ENJOY THE DAY BUT REMEMBER THAT SAFETY
COMES BEFORE FUN!!!**