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25th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers of Birch Class,

Oak Class Visit to Whitstable Harbour – Friday 2nd February 2024

This term, the children in Oak class have been reading 'The Secret of Black Rock' by Joe Todd-Stanton, where they have learnt about fishing communities. We have arranged to take the children to Whitstable Harbour, where they will get a tour by the harbour master, to see fishing boats and learn about the harbours history and the plethora of fish that are caught and sold each day. The children will also receive a tour of the Whitstable Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) Boathouse and learn all about the Charity and its work of saving lives at sea. They will get to see an actual lifeboat!

We apologise for the short notice in alerting you about this trip, but trying to track down the harbour master and securing a date with him, alongside the same date with the Whistable RNLI, has been quite a challenge! We will be travelling by train to and from Whitstable and will be catching the **9:16 from the ticket office side of Swanley train station. Please drop your child to the station by 9am. Please be on time, as we will not be able to wait for any late arrivals. Our return train departs from Whitstable at 14:28 and arrives back at Swanley station at 15:48.** Please collect you child at the same place as drop-off. Should the return timings change on the day, we will alert you via Schoolcomms.

The children should wear a full school uniform, with a waterproof coat and a hat and gloves if it is a cold day, as most of the trip is based outside. The children will need a healthy packed lunch, with a refillable drinking bottle of water. Your child will be required to carry their own lunch on the day and a small backpack for this would be ideal. They will not need any spending money.

The cost of the trip is £10, which covers the cost of the train fare for the day. Please pay via School Gateway app, under the payment '**Oak Trip to Whitstable Harbour**'. We will leave the payment open until **Saturday 2nd March 2024**, to give you a whole month to pay.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Taylor
Oak Class Teacher