



21st May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Birch Class Visit to Colchester Zoo – Thursday 4th July 2024

This term, we are reading the book 'Yucky Worms', written by Vivian French. The story is all about worms and their incredible habitats, and mixes fiction and non-fiction together. We will be learning about animals and their habitats, with a particular focus on underground animals. As part of our learning, we have arranged an exciting class trip to Colchester Zoo.

Colchester Zoo is home to over 155 species of animals, set in 60 acres of parkland and lakes. It boasts its very own African plain, home to white rhino, giraffes, ostriches and zebras as well as other environments, such as the humid habitats of the komodo dragons! The children will also take part in an educational art session, where they will learn about the colours, shapes and patterns found in nature. They will look at specific features of animals, such as furs and feathers, as well as why animals have different colours and patterns and how this helps them in their environment.

The trip will take place on Thursday 4th July. We shall be travelling via the school minibus and **will be leaving St. Paul's promptly at 8.30 am, please arrive no later than 8:15 am.** If your child uses a booster seat, please provide us with it on the morning of the trip and stick a label with their name on it. **We will aim to return to St. Paul's for approximately 4.30 pm.** Please note that this return timing is an estimate subject to change on the day, we will contact you via Schoolcomms and ClassDojo if we are severely delayed.

The children should wear their full school uniform and bring a waterproof raincoat in case of a rain shower and a sunhat if it is a sunny day, as most of the trip will take place outside. If sun cream is required, please apply this at home before your child leaves. We will not be re-applying sun cream on the trip. Your child will require a packed lunch, in a disposable bag with a re-fillable bottle of water, which we can top up at the zoo. As always, this should be a healthy lunch that will keep the children full of energy for the trip! Your child will be required to carry their own lunch, cap and coat on the day; a small backpack would be ideal.

The cost of the trip is £15.00, which includes travel to and from the zoo, entry to the zoo and a specialist educational art session. Please pay for this trip via the School Gateway app under the payment 'Birch Colchester Zoo Visit 2024'. **Please pay in full by Sunday 30th June.** Your child will not need to bring any spending money and we do not require any parent helpers on this occasion. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Craft
Birch Class Teacher