



DILKES ACADEMY

Garron Lane, South Ockendon, Essex RM15 5JQ

Telephone: 01708 852128

E-mail: admin.DA@catrust.org.uk

Headteacher: Mr R Latham BA (Hons), MA

6th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have arranged for Reception pupils to visit Thorndon Country Park as part of our explorers topic. The children will be taking part in a 'Gruffalo experience' led by park rangers where they will follow the Gruffalo trail, take part in an outdoor craft activity as well as an immersive activity. Please see the details below:

Date: Friday 24th November 2023

Time of departure: 9am

Location: Thorndon Country Park, Brentwood

Time of return: 2:30

The children will be travelling to the park by coach. All children will need to bring a packed lunch on this day, if you are entitled to Free School Meals and would like a school packed lunch, please inform the school office or your class teacher as soon as possible. Due to the nature of the trip and the weather, children are allowed to wear tracksuit bottoms however, all children must wear their normal school polo shirt and navy blue school jumper/cardigan. Children will be expected to wear a warm, waterproof coat and if necessary, bring a hat, scarf and gloves. As the location is likely to be muddy, children **must** wear wellington boots and bring a plastic bag to put these in when on the coach. We will be asking for parent volunteers to support a group on this trip. If you are available to support on this day, please express your interest with the class teacher.

Children should be collected from school, as normal, at the end of the school day.

In line with our Charging and Remissions Policy, the school asks for a voluntary contribution of **£15** for each child to cover the costs of the visit. Where there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible, and there is no way to make up the shortfall, then it will be cancelled. For all school trips / visits, the school must pay the balance on booking, therefore all trips / visits are non-refundable unless cancelled by the school. The full balance must be paid to the school by **Friday 10th November**. **All payments, in full, should be made via Arbor.**

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs L Sillett
Assistant Headteacher

