

# DOTHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**Head Teacher: Becca Butler**

Dear Parents/Carers

## School Trips and Workshops

At Dothill we have planned an exciting curriculum for your children to engage them with their learning and to spark their curiosity. A large part of this is the trips and visits that we have planned in to enhance and inspire the learning. These trips and workshops make the memories of school for our children. I'm sure you can think back to your school days and remember some of the special events that you participated in.

When we put a trip or a workshop on ParentPay and ask for a 'voluntary contribution' I want to explain to you what this means. We cannot charge for your child's education and if an event is happening during the school day, as part of the curriculum, there is no 'charge'. However, we do not have the budget to fund these events out of school money. This is why we ask for a voluntary contribution. The difficulty comes when we do not have enough parents who are willing or able to make that voluntary contribution which means that we do not get in enough money to cover the cost of the event. For the events that we have run so far this term we have been several hundred pounds short of the cost. We have covered this from our own funds up to now but this is not sustainable. We will be paying thousands of pounds over the year to offer these curricular enhancements and we just do not have the money to pay for this. Our only alternative is to cancel all the trips and visitors that we have planned which we do not want to do as we know that your children would then be missing out.

Please can I ask that when a trip or workshop is put on ParentPay you tick the consent box and then also make a payment. I appreciate that money is tight and that everything is more expensive but we believe that these enhancements are a key part of your child's learning and we cannot do them without your financial help. If you cannot afford the whole amount then please at least make a contribution. At the moment we have far too many parents contributing nothing at all which makes future trips not viable.

As always, I appreciate your continued support.

Best wishes

Becca

Becca Butler  
Head teacher



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