



Ready, Respectful, Resilient

Headteacher: Mrs T Price BA (Hons) MA Ed

20th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 5 Visit to Laches Wood 2026

The time for our adventure is drawing even nearer and we are all looking forward to having an amazing yet busy few days at Laches Woods. Now may be an appropriate time to start thinking about how you can help your children prepare for their residential trip. Last week, you received the **kit list** provided by Entrust. As it states, it will not be necessary for you to go out and buy lots of new and expensive things, as it is more than likely they will get wet and dirty at times. It would be ideal if children can wear old, comfortable clothing and avoid jeans as once they are wet, they can become very uncomfortable to wear.

Any specialist or safety equipment needed will be provided by Laches Wood. Attached to this letter is a copy of the itinerary, as you can see they are in for a busy, engaging and thoroughly enjoyable week.

Please **label all clothing** with your child's name to try and help us to reduce the amount of lost property at the end of the week. They are staying in dormitories so **will need a duvet cover, a standard sized sheet and 2 pillowcases**. Pupils may be required to help carry their belongings off the coaches and to their dorms, so it is important that they are packed in a way that is easy for them to manage. The dorms will have washrooms and/or en-suite bathrooms, so a towel or two will also be required.

Laches Wood is a **mobile phone free zone** and any mobile phones that are taken will be kept by staff until we return to school. School staff will have a full list of contacts and will contact home if necessary. Electronic games are also discouraged as we will accept no responsibility for these. We do however encourage pupils to bring along a book, magazine, pens and pencils for them to use in their free time.

There is usually a tuck shop available in the evenings where pupils can purchase small souvenirs. Therefore, you may want to send your child with a small amount of pocket money (maximum £10.) Please send this in a **labelled** purse, wallet or cash bag. **It is helpful if this is in change.**

Medical and consent forms will be handed out on Friday 30th January. It is important that these are not completed any sooner than 14 days prior to the trip. Any medication must be brought into school on the day that we leave – clearly **labelled** with the child's name and information on the dosage required. Pupils will be expected to keep their own reliever inhalers with them at all times; all other medication will be kept by the staff. It is important that we are also made aware of any dietary requirements on this form.

On Tuesday 24th February, the pupils need to come to school at the normal time, dressed ready to go. Pupils will **need to bring a packed lunch** with them for when we arrive. If your child is in receipt of free school meals and wish to order one from school, you will need to order a packed lunch by emailing hdagleish@jamesbateman.staffs.sch.uk (**please put Laches in the subject**). A lunch can also be ordered at a

James Bateman Middle School, Park Lane, Knypersley, Staffordshire, ST8 7AT.

Telephone: 01782 973900 **Email:** office@jamesbateman.staffs.sch.uk

cost of £2.85 for pupils wishing to purchase from school. All lunches must be ordered by **Monday 16th February**.

We will be leaving at approximately 9:15am on the Tuesday morning and we expect to be back at school in time for the end of the school day on Friday 27th February. You will be kept updated with an Arbor message if there are any changes to our return time.

As would be expected, attendance on this visit is conditional upon pupils consistently meeting the school's expectations for behaviour and attendance. Pupils who do not meet these expectations may not be permitted to attend.

If you wish to speak to myself or your child's form teacher about any aspects of the visit, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards

S. Fletcher

Year 5 Progress Leader