Dear year three/four parents and carers,

We are excited to advise that your children are invited to attend the Y3/4 residential experience at The Sustainability Centre from Wednesday 10th-Friday 12th May.   This is an optional visit and there is a required payment of £150.40 in order to attend. **This is based on thirty children attending – we will be able to confirm this once we have confirmation of numbers.**

Where is The Sustainability Centre?

This is a nice local experience for what will be for many, a first time away from home.  The centre is in East Meon.

What will they do each day?

**Day 1 – Wednesday 10th May**

**10am Welcome** bags to Lodge common rooms for a safety talk and sounding of the alarms familiarisation. Questions and rules. Introduce Room Challenges and Sustainable Class Award.

**10:30am** Squash & biscuit break and time to run around outside.

**11am** Centre Leader to show the outside space including veg garden (hot compost bins), out of bounds areas, paddock for free time play, where the café is for dinner, the wormery and bug hotel.Fire procedure drill.

**11:30am** Sticky card mosaics - collecting colours and textures in nature.

**11:45am** Clay Tree Spirits.

**12noon Lunch** - packed lunch brought from home eaten over at the Lodge and time for a run around on the paddock.

**1pm** Team Building Activities as whole class - hoops, parachute, drainpipes or human knot (depending on time). **Split into two groups for rotating activities**:

**2pm Group 1** Lava River **Group 2** Ski Planks

**2:30pm Group 1** Ski Planks **Group 2** Lava River

**3pm** Return to Lodge for a short refreshment break

**3:15pm** Whole class tracking game (might get wet).

**4pm** Return to Lodge for refreshment break with squash and snack. Time to put on duvet covers and settle in to your rooms then FREE TIME.

**5pm Dinner** served at the Beech Café.

**6pm** Ready for your own activities.

**8pm** Teachers can make hot chocolate then bed.

**Day 2 – Thursday 11th May**

**8am Breakfast** in the Lodge. This is a mainly self - service continental style breakfast but a member of Lodge staff will be on duty to supervise.

.**9:30am** Tour of the site - introducing the concepts of ‘Earth Care, People Care and Fair Share’ and ‘Reduce, Reuse and Recycle’ whilst looking at the sustainable features we have. Lodge – ground and air source heat pumps, retrofitted with local builders, Main building - solar panels, Fitzroy – wooden yurt, garden and water butt, Woodland Hall – wooden single roof, made from wood on site, Campsite – compost toilets, yurts, shower block, clay oven.

**10:30am**  Return to Lodge for a short refreshment break

**11am**  **Split class into two groups:**

**Group 1** Clay Oven & Rammed Chalk **Group 2** Earthbag Arch )

**12noon Lunch** from the Beech Café served in the Lodge and time for a run around on the paddock.

**1pm** **Split class into two groups:**

**Group 1** Earthbag Arch **Group 2** Clay Oven & Rammed Chalk

**2pm** Return to Lodge for a short refreshment break

**2:30pm** Shelter Build – whole class split into 3 groups. (PR)

**4pm** Return to the Lodge for a refreshment break with squash and biscuits then FREE TIME.

**5pm Dinner** served at the Beech Café**.**

**6pm Evening activities for 1 hour 30 mins. Split into 2 groups:**

**Group 1** Fire Lighting Demo **Group 2** Night Sky

**6:45pm Group 1** Night Sky  **Group 2** Fire Lighting Demo

**7:30pm** Teachers can make hot chocolate then bed

**Day 3 – Friday 12th May**

**8am Breakfast**

**9:30am** **Split class into 2 groups for the habitat study:**

**Group 1** Mini-beast Hunting **Group 2** Pond Dipping

**10am** **Group 1** Pond Dipping **Group 2** Mini-beast Hunting

**10:30am** Return to Lodge for a short refreshment break

**11am** Water conservation - whole class in 3 groups each with a school adult.

**12noon** Chalk Carving.

**12:30pm Lunch** from the Beech Café served in the Lodge and time for a run around on the paddock.

**1:30pm** Return to Lodge - toilets, collect bags for loading onto bus.

**2pm**  **Departure**

What is the accommodation like?

Wetherdown Lodge sleets up to 35 children.  They will stay in rooms with their friends - the rooms sleep 2-3 children and we will select the groupings based on the children that are attending.  The beds are a combination of single, bunk and triple bunk beds.  There are shower rooms on each of the two floors that we will be expecting the children to use while away.

What will they eat?

The Suatainability Centre says: The lunches and dinners are all freshly prepared every day by our on-site Beech Cafe using local and healthy ingredients.  We are very careful to cater for food allergies and intolerances. Menus are sent prior to your trip for options and choices to be made.  The food is a favourite on our residentials. Many schools have asked if they can take the chefs back to school with them.

Full details can be found online at [Sustainability Centre (sustainability-centre.org)](https://www.sustainability-centre.org/)

We would like to invite you to attend an information session about the visit on Monday 6th February at 5:00.  This will give you the opportunity to ask any questions.

Kind regards,

Mrs Jennifer Thornton