



# The Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock Schools Federation



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Dear Parents/Carers,

## Arethusa Journey 2017

The journey leaves on **Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**. This is the first day back after half-term. We would like you to arrive no earlier than 8.55am. When you arrive, leave heavy suitcases/bags by the fence on the drive near the Children's Centre and come straight to the hall (not to the classrooms). This will allow time for the luggage to be stored, staff to collect spending money and any medication, and will give sufficient time for children to use the toilet before they leave at 9.30am.

The children will arrive back at school at around **2.30pm on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**, depending on the traffic.

The adults going on the trip will be:

Miss Steadman (Party leader)  
Mrs. Grodent  
Miss Van Wyk

Mrs Angyalova  
Ms Bridgman/Ms Walker  
Miss Goodson

In addition other staff members will make daily visits.

The food is good and plentiful. Drinks and biscuits are available in the living accommodation. Children do not go hungry, and **do not need to bring any food of any sort with them.**

Which leads us onto a small list of things children **should not bring**:

- any food, sweets or treats
- mobile phones/electronic games
- any toys except for a soft toy
- any expensive watch or camera
- any jewellery
- any i-pods or other MP3 players

**We will check children's belongings to make sure they do not bring any of these items. If they do, they will be taken from them.**

Things children **can bring**:

- books or comics
- writing materials – Including pre-addressed and stamped envelopes
- a special soft toy
- £8.00 (maximum) spending money (the centre has a small shop)



- labelled DVDs (U-cert only)
- disposable cameras

Things children **must bring**:

- a toilet bag containing soap, shower gel/shampoo, flannel, toothpaste, toothbrush and comb or brush.
- **two towels** – one for the shower room and one for swimming
- **bathing costume** – goggles and swimming caps are optional
- pyjamas or night-dress, dressing gown and slippers.
- **a big, black labelled bin-bag to carry home wet, dirty clothes**
- a quilt cover and pillow case (the centre provides the quilt and pillow)
- any medication they need (in a sealed plastic bag, clearly labelled)

It will be very cold outside and possibly very wet too. This is reflected in the clothing list

- **a pair of wellington boots\* which fit** (which must be marked in some way)
- **a pair of trainers**
- **lots of warm socks** (remember some socks slip inside wellies)
- **gloves**
- **a warm hat**
- **plenty of underwear**
- **a warm coat**
- **a waterproof over-coat \***
- **pull-on waterproof over-trousers \***
- **layers of old clothes – vests, t-shirts, long sleeve tops and track suit bottoms.**  
(Jeans are not a good idea, but a fleece is)
- **a 'Disco' outfit**

The asterisked \*items are essential. They are not expensive to buy. Talk to a teacher if you are unable to get any of the items.

The party leaders are in regular contact with school, and we will keep you informed about their well-being. **Your contact with your children will be through letters.** Send one ahead of their journey so that it's there when we get there. Give them some stamped, addressed envelopes and they might even write back to you. The address is:

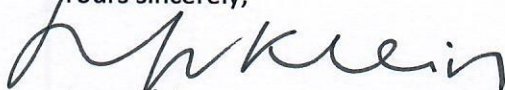
**Arethusa Venture Centre  
Lower Upnor  
Rochester  
Kent ME2 4XB**

Please remember that the children have to carry their own suitcases; please ensure these are of a reasonable size. Additional plastic bags may be useful for dirty clothes.

Stick to the lists. Waterproofs and warm, old clothes are what is needed.

If you have any late worries or queries, please contact the school.

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Klein  
Head of School