

# Spire Junior School

Jawbones Hill, Derby Road, Chesterfield S40 2EN  
Telephone: (01246) 234546

**Headteacher: Mrs C Vernon**

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25<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Y5 Parent / Carers,

## Year 5 Residential to Whitehall

As part of our ever increasing programme for OSHL, (Out of School Hours Learning) we have managed to secure some STEM funding to take our Y5 children to the Whitehall Outdoor Education Centre in Buxton on a STEM residential.

This is an outdoor activity centre owned by Derbyshire which is run extremely well with a homely atmosphere. Whitehall is very popular with schools and trying to get a booking during the week is virtually impossible.

Whitehall is a place for people to have new experiences, have fun, to feel challenged and overcome fears. It is somewhere children have to think, help each other and make decisions. These are all skills and experiences that will help them at school, home and in their life.

The programme of exciting adventurous activities will challenge and inspire them. To help each child reach their full potential they will have the support of friends, accompanying adults and Whitehall staff. We know your son / daughter will have a fantastic experience and learn about themselves and what they can achieve.

On this exciting programme, children will have the opportunity to explore the STEM curriculum through activities such as:



Shelter Building



Bushcraft



Orienteering



An inspiring industrial visit

The activities will take place at the Whitehall Centre and challenge children to be creative and solve problems whilst having fun. The inspiring industrial visit will involve a tour of a local STEM employer and highlight some of the STEM employment opportunities available locally.

The central aim of the programme is to increase motivation for the learning of STEM subjects, as well as encouraging the development of:

- Teamwork skills
- Self-confidence
- Resilience
- Communication



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- Problem solving skills
- Self reliance

Weather conditions will be taken into account each day and the delivery of the programme adapted accordingly.

All activities will be run by nationally qualified practitioners.

Evening Activities - There will also be an evening activity which could be a night hike or a wide game.

Duties - Children will be expected to make their own bed and take their turn on daily duties like helping with the washing up!

The date for the visit is as follows:

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026 to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

The cost of the three days, two nights including accommodation, all meals, transport and insurance is a heavily subsidised **£110.00**.

If you are interested in your child taking part in this residential opportunity, I would like to invite you to a meeting in the Year 5 classroom on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> October starting promptly at **3.15 p.m.** This meeting will last approximately 30 minutes. A copy of the presentation will be available on request after the meeting.

Children are also invited to attend this meeting but must be accompanied by parents / carers.

I would be grateful if you could complete the following slip and return it to school to confirm your child's participation in the visit by Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025 together with a deposit of £25.00. Final payment will be required before the visit. Please contact Mrs Melbourne in the School Office if you have any questions regarding the visit or are experiencing financial difficulties so that an agreement may be put in place.

Kind regards,

**Year 5 Team**



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## Year 5 Residential Visit to Whitehall

I consent for my child ..... in Class .....

to take part in the residential visit to Whitehall in Buxton on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026 to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

I enclose **£25.00** as **deposit** for the 3 day, 2 night residential

I enclose **£110.00** as **full payment**

I would like to put a payment plan in place

Parent / Carer's Name ..... (Block capitals please)

Parent / Carer's Signature .....

**PLEASE RETURN THE PERMISSION SLIP AND £25.00 DEPOSIT BEFORE THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER 2025.**

**Please contact Mrs Melbourne in the School Office if you have any questions regarding the visit or are experiencing financial difficulties so that an agreement can be put in place.**

A kit list will be forwarded to parent / carers before the Christmas holidays.

