

Thursday 21st May 2026



Year 5 Outdoor Adventurous Activities

Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of our “Wish you were here?” theme, we would like to immerse the children in two outdoor survival days: Bellboating at Worcester Canoe Club and a survival skills day at Lakeside Campus.

Bellboating will take place on **Thursday 2nd July**. The coach will leave school at 9:15am and return at 2.30pm ready for the end of the day. Lakeside Campus will take place on **Tuesday 7th July**. The coach will leave school at 9:25am and return at 2.45pm ready for the end of the day.

The cost of this visit will be £57.55 per child. These are fantastic opportunities for the children. The visits are to be paid for online via Arbor online payment. Please make your payment no later than **Thursday 25th June**. Whilst the cost of the trip is a voluntary contribution, the trip may have to be cancelled if insufficient contributions are received. If you have any problems with payments*, please make an appointment to see either Mrs Thorp or Mr Groves as soon as possible.

For bellboating:

The bell-boat is a twin-hulled, stable craft with up to 12 people in a crew, who are seated and propel the boat with single-bladed paddles. All the crew will be wearing buoyancy aids. The focus is on working as a team.

Children will need to:

- i. Wear clothing suitable for the weather. Plenty of layers work well (t-shirt, sweat-top, fleece, joggers or tracksuit) to allow for changes in temperature throughout the day. Jeans are not suitable.
- ii. Bring suntan lotion and a sun-hat.
- iii. Bring spare clothes and a towel in one bag.
- iv. Bring a separate bag (to be taken on the boat) containing a substantial morning snack, lunch, drinks and waterproofs (ideally, waterproof trousers as well).

Footwear

Trainers or sturdy shoes should be worn. Children should not wear wellies - they are unsuitable near deeper water.

SAFETY AND HYGIENE ADVICE

Paddle-sport on placid water is an enjoyable and safe activity provided buoyancy aids are worn and people are aware of water hygiene. There is now a general awareness of Weil's

Disease which is a **rare** illness to which water users may be exposed. The most common symptoms are: a high temperature; influenza-like illness, joint and muscle pains, particularly in the calf muscles.

Anyone falling ill with the symptoms after fishing, sailing, paddle or other water sports, particularly **within the three weeks following** the activity, **MUST** see a doctor and advise him or her of the activity taken part in.

To prevent infection: Cover scratches and cuts with water-proof plasters AND wash or shower after water-based activities, particularly before eating.

For Lakeside Campus:

The day will include a mix of land based and water-based activities, including raft building, bushcraft, archery and orienteering. Children will need to bring:

- Snacks
- Drinks
- A packed lunch
- Raft building kit in a separate bag, consisting of:
 - old clothes (t-shirt, sweatshirt, trousers/shorts and underwear – pants and socks)
 - shoes that will not fall off and you don't mind the children getting wet (ideally an old pair of trainers, aqua shoes or neoprene beach shoes) - on occasions these may get left behind in the bottom of the lake! Wellies are not suitable for this activity as they fill up with water, and walking boots are too heavy.
 - old large towel
- Come wearing suncream and bring suncream (even if the weather is not sunny in the morning it may be needed later in the day).
- Sun hat
- Waterproof coat

Children should come to school wearing forest school type clothes, trousers (not shorts), t-shirt and jumper and suitable shoes e.g., trainers.

We very much hope that your child will want to take part in these unique events and ask that you complete the online consent form by [Year 5 Visits to Bellboating on 2nd July and Lakeside Campus 7th July 2026 – Fill in form](#) by **Thursday 11th June 2026**.

*Please note your child may be eligible for Pupil Premium Funding if you or your partner claim certain benefits such as Income Support/Job Seekers (Income based) etc. This means there may be funding available to pay for your child to go on school visits and they would also be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM). If you think you may qualify please speak with a member

of the office staff (you will need to give the office your National Insurance Number(s) and a telephone call to the Local Authority will easily establish eligibility) or go to <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/childrens-services/schools-education-and-learning/free-school-meals>

NB This is not to be confused with Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) which is provided for all EYFS/KS1 children, or Pupil Premium Plus Funding which is provided for all Looked After Children.

Kind regards,

The Year 5 Team