



John Donne Primary School

Woods Road, Peckham, SE15 2SW

BEACH TRIPS

Reception, Years 1, 2 and 3 - Friday 16th May 2025

Years 4, 5 and 6 - Friday 18th July 2025

Children must attend the beach trip for their year group. They cannot swap or choose

Dear Parents and Carers,

All children in Reception to year 6 are invited to spend a day at the beach at Joss Bay in Kent. For the last couple of years we have been let down by the coach companies at the last minute and we have not been able to go. To avoid this, we have split the trips in to two different dates and found alternative coach companies.

In order for the day to be a great success, here is all of the information you need to know. Please read carefully.

All children must arrive at school and be in class at 8:30am

Travel: We will be travelling to the beach by coach. If your child suffers from travel sickness, please make sure they have taken any necessary medication. If they need to take any further medication for the return trip, please indicate this on the reply slip and hand it to the class teacher on the day of the trip.

Lunch: All children will be provided with a packed lunch from the school. If they normally have their own packed lunch, please provide this as usual. Children can bring extra snacks but nothing that might melt or will be easily squashed in their bag. Fruit, small packet of biscuits or crisps, popcorn etc. are good but please no chocolate or food that will be tricky to eat on the beach. We will be responsible for all of our rubbish so please make sure that you limit packaging where possible.

Water: All children should bring their filled water bottle on the trip. Please ensure this can be sealed properly so it does not leak in their bag. Extra water will be provided. No fizzy drinks or cartons of juice please.

Sun cream: Please make sure that you have applied sun cream to your child before they come to school and that they bring some to apply later in the day. Get them to practice applying the sun cream themselves so they know what to do when on the beach.

Swimming: The children will be allowed into the sea at various points throughout the day. This will always be supervised by adults and they will not be allowed to get out of their depth. There are also RNLI lifeguards at the beach at all times. Please make sure that your child has appropriate swimwear. They should be wearing this under their clothes when they arrive at school to make changing at the beach easier, but please make sure they have a change of underwear for the end of the day. The children must also bring their own towels.



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Communitas Education Trust 

Other clothing: Children **must not** wear their school uniform. They should wear appropriate summer clothing. Shorts, summer skirts etc. but should also bring a long sleeve top and tracksuit bottoms to wear over these if the weather gets colder. A light waterproof jacket would also be a good idea. Simple flip flops, Crocs or sandals are advisable rather than trainers, shoes or boots for the short walk from the coach to the beach. They should also bring a sun hat or cap.

Backpack: Please provide your child with a single backpack to carry all of their belongings. There must be room in this for them to add their lunch when they get to school. If they want to bring buckets and spades, then these can be attached to the bag or bought in a separate plastic carrier bag. Please no expensive beach equipment as these can get lost and the school cannot accept any responsibility for them.

Parents: You are welcome to join us on this trip to the beach. There are a few ways you can do that

Option 1: *Your child's class teacher may ask you if you would like to attend the trip as extra adult support for the children in their class. This will be to help supervise and you should only accept if you are happy to take responsibility for a small group of children under the teacher's supervision. You cannot bring a baby or other child with you under your care. Volunteers chosen will be given a free space on the coach to travel with us.*

Option 2: *There may be some spaces available on the coach at a cost of £20. We will allocate these on a first come, first served basis. If you need to bring a child under the age of 3 with you then they can be given a seat free of charge. Please let the office know if you wish to come and if you need a space for a younger child. Once all of the children, staff and volunteer spaces on the coach have been allocated we will notify you if you have a space and you can pay the £20 to confirm. Putting your name on the waiting list **will not** guarantee you a space on the coach so please be prepared to make alternative arrangements if no spaces are available.*

Option 3: *You can make your own way to Joss Bay by car or by train and meet us there. It is a 1hr 45min drive from school. The Nearest train station is Broadstairs from where you can catch a bus to Joss Bay. Please see travel websites to plan your journey (www.nationalrail.co.uk)*

Please be aware that while on the trip, the children are the responsibility of the school and you must not take your child away from the group without discussing it with the class teacher. All adults and children attending the trip are representing the school and expected to behave accordingly.

We aim to arrive back at school for 5:00pm. Please make sure that you are at school to pick the children up at the correct time. If you are signed up to *Teachers to Parents* text messaging service, then we will be able to send you updates as to our progress.

The cost of this trip is £20 which must be paid through the School money app, EDUSPOT. The office or class teacher cannot accept any cash or cheque payments. If you are not signed up to this service, then please speak to the office and they can help you.

Children **must not** bring any extra money with them. They will each be bought an ice cream when at the beach but there are no other opportunities or need for them to spend any money.

Please keep all of this part of the letter for your information and only return the slip at the bottom of the next page to the office. If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to ask the office.

Thank you for your support

