

St Mary's Church of England Primary School

Skilling Hill Rd, Bridport, Dorset DT6 5LA

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Year 4 Trip: Hike up Bothenhampton Hill, Wednesday 3rd November, 9:00- 12:00.

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

I am writing to inform you of our planned trip to hike up Bothenhampton Hill as stated above. Our upcoming topic is 'Mountains and Rivers'. This trip will provide some experience and support children in learning how to read an OS map identifying human and physical features along with using grid reference co-ordinates. We will also spend some time discussing how to plan for this trip covering ideas such as what equipment we will need, how to plan our route and how to ensure we are all safe.

The plan is to walk from school to the top of Bothenhampton hill and back again. We aim to leave at 9am sharp and be back in time for lunch. In previous years this has taken roughly two hours. We would ask that children are adequately prepared for this walk to ensure their safety and comfort. **Please set the checklist, on the back of this sheet for a list of what to bring.** Please speak to us if you have any concerns about this.

We would very much welcome any parent helpers who would be interested in joining us for this hike. We would have space for up to 2 parent helpers at this time, first come first served, so please come and speak to me if you would like to join us. Please do let me know if you would like to help out on other trips this year too.

Finally, as the children's safety is of paramount importance to us, the trip will be subject to weather conditions on the day and may be cancelled if the conditions pose any concerns. **For the safety of the children we will not be able to take anyone who does not have suitable clothes and equipment.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me or come speak to me if you have any questions regarding this trip.

Kind regards,
Mr. Byrne



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Bothenhampton hill- Checklist:

- **Suitable Clothing:** Children do not need to wear school uniform. Clothing should be suitable and appropriate for the potential conditions: Long sleeves and bottoms and a warm base layer. We should be prepared for rain and wind!
- **Comfortable and suitable footwear.** Consider that it is likely to be muddy and wet. Wellies can be worn but it is important that the children have worn them before as walking for 2 hours in new unworn wellies can become uncomfortable and lead to blisters.
- **Suitable rucksack to carry equipment.** Please avoid handbags or plastic shopping bags. A rucksack carried over the shoulders will be best. Children will need to carry some of our school equipment too.
- **Water bottle.**
- **Snack.** Children will not be in school for break time so they will need an easy to carry snack. As the walk will be quite demanding for some children please ensure they have enough food (slightly more than a usual break-time snack).
- **Rain coat.** This is really important as the weather could change at any time and once we are on the hill we will have very little cover or shelter.
- **Spare clothes in school.** We suggest that children bring spare shoes, socks trousers and top. Even a little bit of rain and damp could cause a lot of discomfort so it would be beneficial to have spare, warm clothes to change in to when we return to school.

A positive and willing attitude: trips like this are what the children will remember long after they leave school. Some children may be worried or anxious- try to enjoy the adventure!

