People Directorate
Head Teacher – Mrs F Meney

Alloway Primary School
16 Doonholm Road
Alloway
Ayr
KA7 4QQ

Tel: 01292 612490 / 01292 441802
Email:alloway.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Our Ref: Your Ref:
Date: 25 October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

PROPOSED PRIMARY 5 TITANIC MUSEUM, BELFAST DAY TRIP
Thursday 9th May 2024

As you will be made aware, both primary 5 classes will be learning about The Titanic for their topic this session. Pre-covid our Primary 5 classes went to Belfast to visit the Titanic exhibition and found this such an exciting and worth while outing. I wrote out to parents last year to gauge parental opinion and we went again last year. Children are always so enthusiastic about this learning experience and visiting the exhibition brings this historical event to life for them. They really enjoyed it and it was so worthwhile. I am currently exploring the potential of running this trip again as I want the children to have the same experiences as children did in previous years. Many schools do this trip and find it so worthwhile.

I wanted to inform you of this due to the rising costs of the trip, prices have increased from last session. You will be aware that everything now is increasing in price and the cost of this trip has significantly risen for us. We would be taking our two Primary 5 classes so would need to take 2 buses. We have explored all options for this and would be using Dodds of Troon again as this was the best option. The only downside is we need to take 40 on each bus as part of the package offered. I am aware that other schools are also offering this trip but are taking smaller numbers which significantly decreases their costs. I am very aware of the cost of living crisis and how this impacts on families. We are doing everything we can to bring down the costs to make this as affordable as possible. We would also open Parent Pay soon to allow families to budget for this. Primary 5 teachers are very keen that this trip goes ahead. Last session we fundraised to bring down costs and would plan to do this again. Please refer to my fundraising letter for the sponsored bounce. We would also like to take the children back to the Burns Museum at Christmas time for carol signing. We have worked out costs and if we fundraised £1285.00 and all children went we would be able to charge children £55. If we fundraised more the cost would come down, which is something I would definitely prefer. We will do all we can to bring down what we are charging families. Children too would learn so much through fundraising and would fully be involved in working out costs etc as we make this a real life experience.

In order to maintain pupil ratios and to fill the 80 seats, we would be taking parent helpers. We would need to continue to charge for parent helpers, as they did in previous years. If you would like to join the children on their trip, it will be a cost of £55.00 per adult which will include an adult meal. As spaces are limited (18 spaces) due to the size of the coach.

This price for all includes:

- coach travel by Dodds of Troon
- ferry cost
- entrance fee to Titanic museum
- a visit to the Titanic Hotel
- a guided walking tour outside the museum
- dinner on ferry home

The coach would leave Alloway Primary at 8.30am and will not return until 11.15pm. We realise this is a very late return for children but it is an amazing educational outing. Unfortunately payments are non-refundable.

We don't want our children to miss out but I wanted to keep you informed about this and explain the costs to you. In order to assess if this trip would be viable, please complete this survey. This is just to canvas opinion. I will let you know the outcome and our firmed up plans. **Please complete by Monday 6th November 2023**. https://forms.office.com/e/83XJmL8gtY I will make a decision based on the results of this survey and be back in touch.

Yours sincerely,

F. Meney

Fiona Meney
Head Teacher