



St Thomas Becket

Catholic Primary School

Birchanger Road
London SE25 5BN

Headteacher
Noel Campbell

Tel: (020) 8654 3006

7th January 2022

Ref: Yr 6 Residential 2022

Dear parent/carer,

We have received the sad news that Rippledown House, the venue for our year 6 residential for many years, has announced it is to close and will not be available to host schools in 2022.

We had already booked our current year 6 cohort to visit Rippledown in June 2022 but due to the decision taken by the Bay Trust (who run Rippledown), to close the centre with immediate effect, they are unable to honour our booking. This is also, unfortunately, a consequence of Covid and the impact it has had on the finances of the centre due to reduced visits from schools.

So many families have special memories of children visiting Rippledown house while in Year 6 and we have always had a very special relationship with the centre, so we are very shocked to receive this unwelcome news. I know our current Year 6 children will be very disappointed.

This does mean that, currently, we do not have a venue booked for the year 6 residential. It is always difficult and time-consuming to find suitable venues for school residentials and doubly so at this time in the year when most available slots have already been booked. That said, we will continue to research alternative venues / activities and will keep you informed with our progress.

The meeting for year 6 parents to discuss the details of the Year 6 residential, scheduled to take place on Thursday 13 January at 6.30pm, is now cancelled. As soon as we have information about an alternative venue for Study Week we will rearrange another meeting with parents.

Thank you for your understanding with regard to this challenging situation.

Noel Campbell
Head teacher