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Headteacher: Andrew Pickering

16th September 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Re: Upfront Payment for School Educational Visits/Experiences

At Horniman School we value the important contribution educational visits and visitors make to the curriculum. We believe that children should create memorable experiences whilst at our school. These range from visits to museums and art galleries to residential visits and forest school activities.

In order to fund educational visits and experiences we are again asking parents and carers to make a one-off payment, rather than paying each time your child goes on a visit.

As you are all aware, school budgets are getting ever tighter and the school is incurring many extra expenses due to inflation, the rise in energy costs and unfunded staff pay increases, which has further impacted on our already stretched school budget. Last year we had to use school funds to cover unmet educational visit/experience costs and we are unable to continue to do this. If there are insufficient funds from parents/ carers then visits may have to be cancelled. Any classes that have a surplus from last year the surplus will be carried over to the current academic year.

This week, you will see the option in your ParentMail account for a £40 contribution per child to cover all visits and experiences (except residential visits) for the 2022-23 academic year.

To allow the school to forward plan, we are asking that this contribution is made by October half term (20/10/22). You can make this payment in full, or pay part pay it over the coming weeks. We recognise that many families may be struggling financially due to the cost of living crisis. If it will be difficult for you to make the payment(s) by half term, do please speak to me to discuss options.

Children in receipt of free school meals (FSM) will be asked to contribute 25% of this amount (£10). However, if you wish to contribute more, you are more than welcome! If you are unsure if your child(ren) are eligible for free school meals, please check online here: <https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-meals> If you receive a letter saying you are entitled, please bring the letter to school as we are not directly informed of the outcome by Lewisham Council.

If any parents/carers would like to pay extra to cover the cost of another child who is unable to pay then please let the school office know.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Pickering
Headteacher

Horniman Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

