

Thursday, 28th August 2025

Re: Bell-boating, Bidford-upon-Avon – Monday, 22nd September 2025

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to have, again, been offered the opportunity to try our hands at the art of 'Bell-boating', a water-based activity using a 'bell-boat' - a twin-hulled, stable craft with up to 12 people in a crew. Not only will this provide our children with an ideal introduction to canoeing and water sports, (the bell boat providing a safe environment and a stable platform) it will also act as an excellent team building activity, encouraging co-operation and a desire to work as one, as the seated crew paddle together to achieve their goal. With more than one team, we will be able to enjoy some friendly competition and a variety of games on the day, helping to build skills and water-confidence.

Each crew-member will be wearing buoyancy aids and each bell-boat will include two adults in their crew. Children must wear plenty of layers - joggers, t-shirts, sweat-tops, old trainers/shoes (but NOT wellies) - and may bring waterproof tops and trousers, if they have them. In addition, bring a hat/cap, gloves, spare clothes and a towel.

Should the weather be very sunny, a good application of water-proof sun-tan lotion is advisable. The children will be spending the whole school day on and by the river, expending lots of energy and so plenty of snacks, drinks (non-fizzy), and a packed lunch will be required, please.

As the activity day will be based on the River Avon at Bidford, we would ask for children to be dropped at the river bank by 09:00 on **Monday, 22nd September** and collected again at 15:00. Drop-off and pick-up will be at the car park by the bridge in Bidford-on-Avon, on the opposite side to the village. I will be at the meeting point, in the car park immediately after Bidford Bridge, from 08:45 and so you are welcome to drop your child from this time, should you need to.

There will be no cost for this trip as it will be covered by our PE funding.

To aid us in the organisation and planning of this trip, could you please follow the link and complete the permission slip via Microsoft Forms by Friday 12th September.

<https://forms.office.com/e/H20w0DyXSe>

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs. Pellet-Ward

