

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Year 6 are currently learning about World War II in history. We focus a lot on evacuees and the journeys they made to the countryside for safety. Every year we have taken the children to Beaumanor Hall to experience what it might have felt like to be an evacuee during World War II. Due to Covid19 we are unfortunately unable to visit Beaumanor, however we would like to recreate this special day-trip in school.

On **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November** we would like the children to come to school dressed as evacuees. Please find ideas below to help make the day as authentic as possible.

### **Visiting Wartime Westdale In Role**

It will greatly enhance your child's day if they turn **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November** into a role-playing exercise. In order to maximise the value of your child's day you might like to incorporate the following suggestions:

#### 1) The Background

The day will be very loosely set around 1940. The children will be evacuees, sent by their parents to Westdale before heading to the train station to get away from the bombing. Their teachers will be accompanying them (as was actually the case).

#### 2) Costume

The children could all have a 'luggage label', gas mask box and teddy and anything else they bring with them could be carried in a small suitcase or pillow case.

##### a) Girls

- School uniform (if applicable)
- Tights or short white socks and outdoor shoes
- Hair in plaits, bunches, pinned up or neatly brushed. If long enough, could be in 'earphones'

##### b) Boys

- Long-sleeved shirt and short trousers, long socks and outdoor shoes and boots.
- Tank top/school uniform, jacket and school cap (if applicable) or cub uniform.
- Favourite teddy bear, games, books etc.

#### 3) Packed lunch

Packed lunches should reflect the fact that plastic bags and lunch boxes had not been invented. There were no fast foods and most food was plain, simple, local and rationed.

##### a) The food

- cheese sandwiches and/or bread and jam
- bread pudding or fatless sponge, apples/ pears
- ginger beer or old fashioned 'flat'

##### b) The containers

- Wrapped in greaseproof paper and tied up in a plain tea towel or newspaper
- Carried in a cloth satchel or wickerwork basket

