

For children that are currently in year 4

Year 5 School Journey to Nethercott Farm

September 21st - 26th 2025

Dear parents and carers,

At the beginning of next academic year (September 2025) your child is invited to spend a week at Nethercott Farm.

Nethercott Farm is a large Victorian farmhouse in Devon, on the edge of Dartmoor. It is part of the Farms for City Children group, set up by the author Michael Morpurgo and his wife Clare to offer children the chance to experience a week working and living together on a farm.

Each day, the children will carry out a range of farm based activities such as feeding and cleaning the horses, taking the sheep out to the field, helping with the cows at the nearby dairy farm or harvesting vegetables from the kitchen garden. They will also have the chance to enjoy other countryside activities like walks, crafts, campfires and visiting the local village, the place that inspired Michael Morpurgo to write his novel "War Horse".

All the while, they will be cared for by the lovely staff that work at the farm, being fed lovely meals and enjoying social time together with their friends. It is an unforgettable week away from home that we hope will provide the children with happy memories for years to come.

We will leave school on the morning of Sunday September 21st, travelling by coach to Devon, returning on the afternoon of Friday 26th

Residential Trips are an important part of your child's time at school, giving them the opportunities to experience a different way of life and learn to work and live together. We have had to increase the price of the trip this year to reflect the increase of costs to us but it still represents great value for money. All food and travel is included and the school contributes a considerable subsidy to make sure the trip is affordable as possible.

The cost of the trip to you, including all travel and meals is £290.

There is a maximum of 39 spaces available for the trip so please confirm if you would like your child to attend as soon as possible

This can be paid for in instalments.

Cost	Due date
£50 deposit - non refundable	Friday 14 th Feb or sooner to secure a place
£60	Friday 4 th April
£60	Friday 23 rd May
£60	Friday 18 th July
£60 - Final payment	Friday 12 th September

If you would like your child to attend then please can you email the school office on office@jdacademy.org.uk stating your child's full name, their class and that you would like them to attend the trip to Nethercott farm in September 2025

Once we have your child's name we can set up a payment schedule for you so that the deposit and further instalments can be made via SchoolMoney www.eduspot.co.uk or at any PayPoint shop using your unique PayPoint slip that can be provided by the school office.

All details about the trip will be shared with you closer to the time but some key things to know are...

The farm provides waterproof clothing for the children to wear when working out on the farm so there is no need to purchase any expensive equipment or clothing for your children to attend.

All medical needs will be arranged by the school staff before departure

All dietary needs can be catered for by the farm. This includes for any allergies or religious requirements

Quiet spaces can be used for any religious observations

The children sleep in single sex dormitories (about 6-10 children per room) all with en-suite shower rooms.

Staff from school will be with the children at all times.

To find out more about the farms visit www.farmsforcitychildren.org

If you need to know anything in particular or have any concerns you would like addressed before you sign up then do not hesitate to get in touch. You can speak to me in the playground if you see me after school or contact me on tcrane@idacademy.org.uk I will be happy to answer any of your questions.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Teddy Crane

Outdoor learning coordinator