Dear Y6 parents,

It is with great sadness that I have to let you know that, after discussions with the CEO, Trust members and governors, we have had to cancel the y6 residentials across the Trust. Unfortunately, we had to make a decision before the end of today, or parents would have been liable for a percentage of the cost.

Our decision was based on the fact that it seems increasingly unlikely, given the timelines of the virus in other countries, that the children would have been able to go safely. Furthermore, we recognise that the virus has affected some of you financially, and we did not want to risk you being liable for any portion of the payment. Unfortunately, the centre would not give us an extension of time to make this decision, so although it may seem premature, we have had to base this decision on the facts as they currently stand.

I know that many of you have already paid the residential trip cost – I have spoken to the Finance Department about this, and have been reassured that the team will be in touch with you all shortly to advise on the repayment method and timeframe.

We are still hoping that schools will return before the end of the academic year, and we have already started making plans for giving our Y6s across the Trust an exciting end to their primary if we do return to school. Today, here at Parklands, we have made contact with iFly to see if we can provisionally book some dates to replace our cancelled trip in the last couple of weeks of term 6. Of course, if we are back, we would also have the prom and leavers assembly, and would make sure that we had some other exciting days lined up for the children. At least this way, Year 6 would have some amazing experiences to end what has been an unexpectedly disappointing year

Apologies for bringing more bad news to your inbox. Hopefully, next time you hear from me, it will be for something more positive.

Keep safe,

Tracey Coles