

3 May 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Year 4 will be visiting Chislehurst Caves on 19th May as part of our Science week. The fully trained guides will lead the way in the caves, encouraging the children to look at the many scientific aspects of the underground world and will be making links with the recent topic of sound.

The caves at Chislehurst in Kent, are a labyrinth of man-made tunnels, forming a maze covering over 6 Hectares and are up to 30 metres below the homes and woodlands above. Chislehurst caves have been carved out over hundreds of years and were originally dug for chalk used in lime burning and brick making for the building of houses and factories in London, as well as for flints to fire the tinderboxes and flintlock guns of years ago. First open to the public in 1900 as a showplace, the guides told the Victorians the history of Romans, Druids and Saxons, Smuggling and other historical facts. For the last 100 years the caves have been used as munitions storage for the Woolwich Arsenal in the 1914-18 war. Also used for mushroom growing. Then in the 1920 and 1930's the caves became an underground town as the largest deep air-raid shelter outside London, protecting over 15,000 people every night during the Blitz.

The cost of the trip is £6. Please go to Parent pay to pay and to provide your consent for the trip, returning it to school by Friday 13 May.

Children must wear school uniform and bring a packed lunch (no glass bottles, chocolate or food containing nuts please). Please make sure that your child brings plenty of water to drink throughout the day. As the ground at the caves will be uneven it would be advisable for the children to wear trainers.

Please make sure your child is in school for **8:30 a.m.** as we will be leaving promptly in order to catch 3 buses to the venue and then will be returning to school at approximately **4:00 p.m.**

Please email year4@st-josephs-jun.croydon.sch.uk if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support.
The Year 4 team.

