

Colmers Farm Primary School

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7th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been given a wonderful opportunity to take our Year 4 children Bell Boating on the **Wednesday 23rd September** (4N) and **Thursday 24th September** (4S).

The bell-boat is a twin-hulled, stable craft with up to 12 people in a crew, who are seated and propel the boat with single-bladed paddles. The focus is on working as a team.

Children will need to:

- wear clothing suitable for the weather. Plenty of layers work well (t-shirt, sweat-top, fleece, joggers or tracksuit) to allow for changes in temperature throughout the day. **Jeans are not suitable.**
- bring spare clothes and a towel in one bag.
- bring a separate bag (to be taken on the boat) containing a substantial morning snack, lunch, drinks and waterproofs (ideally, waterproof trousers as well).

Footwear

Trainers or sturdy shoes should be worn. Children should **NOT wear wellies** - they are unsuitable near deeper water.

We very much hope that your child will want to take part in this unique event. We would be grateful if you would return the permission slip by **Friday 11th September 2026**.

The cost of this trip is **£6 per child** and can be paid for on Arbor under the trips section.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Williams
Headteacher



Bell Boating – Year 4

Child's name:

Class:

I DO / DO NOT **(PLEASE CIRCLE)** give permission for my child to attend on their allocated day to take part in Bell Boating.

Please indicate below your child's lunch preference: **(please circle)**

1. **School packed lunch:** Ham Cheese Tuna Jam

2. **Bringing in a packed lunch from home.**

Parent / Carer name:

Parent / Carer signature:

Date:

SAFETY AND HYGIENE ADVICE

Paddle-sport on placid water is an enjoyable and safe activity provided buoyancy aids are worn and people are aware of water hygiene. By way of reminder, we'd like to share the following information.

Weil's Disease is a bacterial infection normally believed to be spread by rat urine, though can also be transmitted by cat, fox and rabbit urine. Transmission is usually through an open wound or abrasion but can also be caused by ingestion of contaminated water.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms are lethargy, diarrhoea, headaches, vomiting a high temperature, muscle and joint pain, sometimes referred to as flu-like symptoms.

Notify Doctor

Be reassured that it is a rare illness but it's wise to be vigilant. Anyone falling ill with the symptoms after fishing, sailing, paddle or other water sports, particularly **within the three weeks following** the activity, **MUST** see a doctor straight away and advise him or her of when and where the activity took place.

Prevention

To prevent infection, cover scratches and cuts with water-proof plasters AND wash or shower after water-based activities, particularly before eating.

Further advice can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Leptospirosis/>
