



Thomas Russell Junior School

Year 6 Residential 2025

Standon Bowers Day 1



After a calm journey, we arrived safely at Standon Bowers. Set in beautiful countryside, it is a majestic, historic building that used to be a boarding school for boys until Staffordshire County Council purchased it for outdoor education. A perfect setting for a few days of exciting activities, self-discovery and teamwork.



The first task was making our beds, something that was achieved by everyone (well nearly everyone!). The sight of boys wrestling with fitted sheets and duvet covers was a thing to behold. 😊



This afternoon, the children were put in 8 different activity groups with instructors leading the teaching and TRJS staff on hand to provide pastoral support. We had great fun with indoor climbing, bouldering, bridge building and axe throwing.

Tea was a choice of macaroni cheese, sausage and mash or jacket potato with various fillings, followed by a lemon cake. There was plenty of salad and fruit for everyone and all dietary requirements were catered for. Suffice to say, there was not much left over!



TRJS are the only school in the main centre building (the other school are camping 😊), so during free time, our Year 6 had the run of the lovely grounds and enjoyed chatting with friends, football and cricket. Alfie shared his sweets with all the group as it was his birthday. Thanks Alfie!

The evening activity involved a beautiful walk in the picturesque countryside around Standon. The weather was perfect for an evening ramble and we all enjoyed learning about nature, including making wonderful sounds with grass as a musical instrument and eating wild garlic leaves.

Once we were back at the centre, hot chocolate and biscuits were served. After a day in the sun, Year 6 certainly needed showers (!) then at around 9.30pm, after some more free time on the field, it was time to settle down. It is not an exaggeration to say that it took a while for sleep to arrive – it was close to midnight when all was quiet. However, the night passed without incident and we all in one piece. 😊



Year 6 enjoyed all the activities and responded very well to the instructors. With all the excitement of the first day away, there is room for improvement in our listening skills and table manners which we will be working on today.

It is raining at the moment, but the weather forecast looks fine for the rest of the day.

Day 1 done and dusted! Breakfast awaits, followed by another fun day of activities. Are we ready? We were born ready!

Mr E and the Year 6 Team