



Balksbury Federation  
Floral Way  
Salisbury Road  
Andover  
Hampshire  
SP10 3QP

Executive Headteacher  
Miss K Thompson

Telephone: 01264 365642/352801

[www.balksburyfederation.co.uk](http://www.balksburyfederation.co.uk)

[adminoffice@balksbury-inf.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@balksbury-inf.hants.sch.uk)  
[adminoffice@balksbury-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@balksbury-jun.hants.sch.uk)

### **Hillier Gardens – Wednesday 7th May 2026**

Friday 13th March 2026

Dear Families,

We are excited to announce our upcoming trip to the Hillier Gardens on **Thursday 7th May 2026**. This will be a wonderful and hands on learning experience for our children and will support our topic on Life Cycles. During this learning journey children will have the opportunity to discover and identify a variety of insects, learn about the importance of different habitats, and explore how we can care for our environment to help wildlife flourish.

Activities at Hillier Gardens that children will take part in:

- **Minibeast Hunt** - to identify the variety of minibeasts found in different habitats
- **Pond Dipping** - to identify the variety of minibeasts found in different habitats
- **Estate agents** - to consider the needs and requirements of animals when building a 'home' for them in the gardens
- **Sensory trail** – exploring the herb garden children will create a sensory smelling caterpillar
- **Un-Nature Trail** - to gain greater understanding of camouflage whilst hunting for hidden objects in the natural environment

#### **Arrangements for the day:**

We will be travelling by coach which will leave school at 9am and return by the end of school.

On the day, children will need:

- Full school uniform
- A named coat
- A named water bottle
- A packed lunch in a named bag

If you would like to order a packed lunch from Dolce, you will need to do so via SchoolGrid. Please note, if you have not ordered a packed lunch on SchoolGrid by **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May** you will need to provide your child with a packed lunch on the day.

For this trip to be successful we are asking for parents to support us with a contribution of £18.57 per child, which will include entrance to Hillier gardens all activities outlined above and the coach. Consent and contributions for this trip should be submitted via Arbor by **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May** If you wish to contribute for this trip over several weeks, please see a member of the Admin Team in reception.

Many thanks,  
The Year R Team

**Learning and Growing Together**