

Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Travel dates:** Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 a.m. –  
Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> @ approx. 6:00 p.m.

Dear Grade 7 & 8 Campers and Families,

We know that families have been waiting for the **final cost** of the Camp Wanakita trip. Thank you for your patience. We have had to review a few issues, but we have finally determined the costs involved.

**Accommodations** are cabins which sleep up to 12 students in bunk-bed formation. Teachers do not sleep in the cabins with the students, but the teachers' cabin is located nearby. The price of the trip includes nighttime security between 10 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.. This security guard spends this time at the cabins, patrolling and/or in a location central to the children's cabins. He/she would notify the Thompson Creek staff in the case of an emergency.

**Activities** may include canoeing, kayaking, archery, low ropes challenges, high ropes challenges, rock wall climbing, hiking, swimming, low organization games, team challenges, and other fun events. Students are busy from 7 a.m. until lights-out. It is a high-energy trip spent outdoors and being active with friends in the waning days of the school year.

The trickiest part about determining the cost of the trip is covering the cost of the coach bus. We like to keep costs down as low as possible for each camper, but we also must be careful that we collect enough money to pay the coach bill. As a result, we are adopting the strategy that many school trip companies like EF Tours use: a sliding scale. The trip will be cheaper, obviously, with more students travelling. We will also most likely need more than one coach bus. The busses are available in 56-seater and 30-seater combinations. See below for an example of how the price changes:

| <i>Number of Campers:</i> | <i>Cost:</i> |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| 95                        | \$291        |
| 80                        | \$305        |
| 75                        | \$297        |
| 65                        | \$309        |
| 55                        | \$325        |

This price includes the following:

- Camp Wanakita: all activities and 6 meals; nighttime security from 10 p.m.
- Coach transportation (on the 407 ETR)
- Dinner: each student will contribute \$15 as part of the cost of the trip. This \$15 will be handed back to students at a rest stop on our way home. They can use this money to purchase their dinner. Any change is theirs to keep.

\*\*\* No additional spending money is required. There is nowhere to shop.

At this time, we are asking for families to make a **firm commitment** toward this trip. Families are asked for a \$30 **downpayment** to secure their child's place. This payment can be made online through Schoolcash. Sixty days before the trip, we will finalize our numbers and the cost of the trip.

Please note that all students attending this trip are required to demonstrate excellent behaviour throughout the school year, including respect for all staff in and out of the classroom. Please carefully review the attached **behaviour contract**; please sign and return that form as your child's trip registration.

Mrs. Dykstra will be tracking each student's **individual account**. As fundraisers conclude, you will receive receipts for your child's profits. Fundraising profits are not pooled; your child earns profits directly received from his/her sales. All payments will be due one month from the date of travel. We depart on Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, so all accounts should be settled by Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.

One final piece of information must be shared. Due to safety precautions, a simple **swim test** will be required at the camp. Should students not be successful in this swim test, alternative activities will be available during water events. For example, such a student may enjoy a second trip to the archery activity or the low ropes event.

If you have elected to participate in the MacMillan's Frozen Foods **fundraiser**, we hope your sales went well. We will send home statements shortly with your child's individual profits.

Sincerely,

Mrs. VanderMeer, Mr. McDonnell, Mr. Cole, Mr. Sharpe, and Mrs. Dykstra