ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENT

The annual fall Environmental Education Program for Falk students is scheduled for Monday, October 22 through Thursday, October 25 this year at McKeever Environmental Center. McKeever is located approximately an hour and a half north of Pittsburgh in Sandy Lake, Pennsylvania.

The program is carried out primarily for educational, not recreational, purposes. Therefore, it is different from other camp experiences. There is heavy emphasis on science with work in humanities and the arts. The children have educational experiences that can be more beneficial in the outdoor setting than in the classroom. Among them are collecting and studying specimens, identifying plant and animal life in its natural environment, making firsthand observations of soil, water, and weather conditions, and doing creative writing in the outdoors. The social experiences of the group build understanding and friendships that are of permanent value.

The food services and general environmental center management are the responsibility of a professional director. Falk teachers take the leadership in program planning direction and instruction will be provided by Falk teachers. The dormitories will be rigorously supervised by Falk staff.

Students are asked to pay $140.00 each to cover the costs of dormitory lodging, meals, evening snacks, transportation, supplies and incidentals. The money should be brought to Mr. Kramer in room B-12 no later then Tuesday, October 16, 2001. If payment is made by check, the check should be made out to “FALK MIDDLE SCHOOL FUND”.

On Monday, October 22 the students should come to school bringing with them clothing and equipment that is itemized on the attached list. They will be transported to McKeever on a school bus. On Thursday, the bus will bring them back to school in time to go home by their usual transportation. We intend to return by 2 p.m. so if your child is not remaining for Afterschool or riding a school bus home, please pick him/her/them up in the circle between 2-2:30 p.m. This procedure will make the regular 3 p.m. dismissal much more efficient. Middle School students will not attend school on Friday, October 26.

This Environmental Education experience has been a valuable part of the school curriculum for many years and we look forward to another wonderful experience. Also enclosed is a list of responsibilities expected of each student. This responsibility sheet is to be read and signed by both the student and the parents. It is to be returned along with the permission slip, check and medical information sheet to Mr. Kramer in room B-12. If there are any special problems, please contact Mr. Kramer at 412-383-9615 or 412-741-0355 (H)

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