

September 14, 2009

Dear Fourth Grade Families,

Welcome back to school! This letter provides information on your child's upcoming farm trip to Hawthorne Valley Farm. The farm is located in Ghent, New York, about 2.5 hours from LREI. It is a working, organic, vegetarian farm with a wonderful, experienced staff, lots of cows and amazing horses. This four-day trip will provide your children with the opportunity to work and play together in an exciting and challenging environment. Dina and Kruti's class will attend from Tuesday, 10/20 – Friday, 10/23. Please arrange to bring your child to school by 8:15 a.m. on Tuesday morning. The class will return on Friday at 3:00 p.m.

Here is some important information you will need to prepare for the trip and a description of the attached forms:

- 1. Medical Information:** Please fill out the Medication Dispensation chart and both sides of the Medical Information sheet. Remember, all medication must be in original containers, clearly labeled with your child's name and dosage, and given to teachers in a ziplock bag on the morning of departure.
- 2. Special Needs:** Please provide information on dietary needs and allergies.
- 3. Payment Form:** The cost of the trip is \$500 per student. Because this commitment is significant, we'll plan to meet the costs through a group effort. Some families may be able to contribute an additional amount, while others may speak with Michel de Konkoly Thege (ext. 319), for partial assistance. The trip fee may be charged to your MasterCard or Visa.
- 4. Packing List:** The list includes clothing and bedding recommendations. If you're faced with large purchases, please let teachers know, because it's usually easy to arrange loans among families. The primary guidelines should be warm clothing that can get wet or dirty, and a packing system that allows your child to find things easily.

It is important that you complete the attached forms and return them to Tracie McGee in the Business Office by Monday, October 5th. Also, you will learn more information about this trip on curriculum night (October 1st at 6:00 p.m.). If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dawn Wheatley
Lower School Assistant Principal