

EXCURSION INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Preschool National Arboretum Excursion

Dear Parents and Carers,

The following details relate to an educational excursion to the National Arboretum which is being organised for Gurrang (Griffith Preschool) and Gabadang (Red Hill Preschool).

Date/time: Friday 3rd June 2022 9:30am - 1:30pm

Purpose of excursion: As part of our inquiry into 'Sharing the Planet' students will explore and make connections with the natural environment.

Activities: Students will have the opportunity to view the *Wide Brown Land* sculpture and explore the nearby Himalayan Cedars. We will then view Canberra and spot special places from Dairy Farmers Hill Lookout before a visit to the Indigenous and sensory gardens, and Pod Playground near the Village Centre.

Clothing and Equipment: Sun-smart hat, jacket, healthy snack in lightweight packaging, water bottle and enclosed shoes suitable for walking (e.g., runners). All items should be clearly labelled with your child's name.

Transport: Bus

Group Size: Maximum 44 students, 4 staff and 8 volunteers

Trip Leaders: Julie Ferguson & Nicole Lipman

Assistant Leaders: Bronwyn Beattie & Lidija Trpeska

Cost: \$10

The school has made every effort to keep the cost for this excursion at a minimum level. If necessary, parents or students can confidentially discuss support to meet the cost of the excursion with the Principal. Please contact the front office if you would like to speak with the Principal.

Notes and money to Red Hill Primary School front office by: Friday 27th May 2022

Excursion Risk Assessment: Available at the front office

Parent Volunteers: To maintain a high level of supervision for this event, we are asking for parent/carer volunteers to accompany us on this excursion. To volunteer for this excursion, you must have your own transport to and from the National Arboretum. Volunteers will meet staff and preschoolers at the *Wide Brown Land Sculpture* near the Himalayan Cedars car park at 10am (view map: https://www.nationalarboretum.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/1496371/arboretum-master-map.pdf).

It is preferred that parents/carers accompanying students on excursions as volunteers are up to date with Covid19 vaccination and hold current Working with Vulnerable People registration: <https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/article/working-with-vulnerable-people-wwvp-registration-tab-overview>

If you are able to attend, please get in touch with your child's teacher and provide your details on the permission note.

Covid Safety: Volunteers are requested to travel to and from the Arboretum in their own vehicle. It is preferred that volunteers be up to date with vaccinations, wear a mask when indoors or unable to maintain 1.5m spatial distance. All staff are up to date with Covid 19 vaccinations and wear a mask when indoors or unable to maintain 1.5m spatial distance. All adults and children will practice good hand hygiene, i.e., cough and sneeze into the elbow, use hand sanitiser throughout the excursion as needed e.g., before eating and when using bus or shared equipment. Adults and children who have any symptoms of Covid19 or are sick should not attend.

Contingency: In the event of the following conditions this excursion may be cancelled:

- Thunderstorms or torrential rain on the day
- Insufficient funds to cover the cost of the excursion
- Insufficient staff and/or volunteers to maintain supervision at the National Arboretum

Behavioural expectations- Students are expected to show respect for the natural environment and use their senses to mindfully observe, think and wonder about what they see and feel at the arboretum. Students are to remain with their group for the duration of the excursion and maintain their class Essential Agreements and general school rules (i.e., no tree climbing, no throwing sticks or rocks, hands off, feet off). During travel on the bus students are to remain seated at all times. Students requiring first aid or assistance with toileting will seek help from their Teachers and Educators.

Staff accompanying students on excursions will take all reasonable care while the students are in their charge to protect them from injury and to control and supervise their behaviour and activities.

Parents should be aware that staff members are not responsible for injuries or damage to property which may occur on an excursion where, in all circumstances, staff have not been negligent. Parents should warn children of the risk to themselves, to others and to property, of impulsive, wilful or disobedient behaviour.

Packing list-

- Sun smart hat
- Water bottle
- Healthy snacks (no nuts please)
- Attire suitable for the weather conditions (e.g. jumper/jacket)
- Sturdy footwear for walking and playing (e.g. runners)
- All items clearly labelled

Due to space constraints school bags are left at the preschool. Students should bring their snack labelled and packed separately (i.e., in a paper bag) and a labelled water bottle. To make it easier for students to eat their snacks it is best to pack finger food such as sandwiches or crackers & fruit. Items such as yoghurts or meals in thermoses or reusable containers are not recommended when attending this excursion. Students will eat lunch when they return to the preschool.

If you have any questions about this excursion, please contact your child's teacher.

Kind Regards,

Preschool Team