

Oak Park Unified School District
Medea Creek Middle School

September 19, 2014

Dear Seventh Graders and Parents,

This year Medea Creek students have, once again, the wonderful opportunity to experience hands-on, biological science at Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI) on Catalina Island.

What and When:

The trip is from Monday, November 17- Wednesday, November 19, 2014. CIMI is a wonderful hands-on science experience in marine biology. Students attending will participate in classes that extend the 7th grade science curriculum (classes include Fish/Invertebrates, Tide pooling/Plankton, and Squid Dissection) as well as team building activities that encourage physical challenges (Snorkeling, Sea Kayaking, and Night Snorkel).

Trip Funding* and Paperwork:

The suggested, voluntary donation that we ask of parents to fund this trip is \$343.00. This includes transportation via Southwind bus company, Catalina Cruises to the island, room and board at CIMI, and the instructional program itself. The school district and the PFA are able to fund this trip, and it is not a required part of the curriculum; however, it is a highly enriching and engaging experience that we would like to make available to interested 7th graders. We rely completely on the suggested donation amount to fund this trip. If we do not receive sufficient funds from parents, then the trip will need to be cancelled. For questions about suggested voluntary donations, please contact Jeff Feinberg, Dean of Students, (818) 707-7922.

- Students should turn in their paperwork packet and donation check (check made payable to OPUSD; student's name written in the memo section of the check) and registration packet **by October 10th. The packet may also be found on the MCMS website in the Catalina link.**
- **Paperwork should be turned in to the student's science teacher.** The Student Window will NOT accept paperwork but will take payments if they are in cash.
- **LATE paperwork will not be accepted.**

* Any request for supplies or donations toward the purchase of supplies, materials, equipment, field trips, programs, etc. is completely voluntary under the law in California public schools. Students may not be charged for participation in educational activities and may not be discriminated against or denied participation for not providing voluntary donations to the school. Should any student or parent believe they were impermissibly charged a fee or required to provide materials or supplies that they would not have otherwise voluntarily paid or provided, an application for reimbursement may be filed with the District by calling (818) 735-3206.

Chaperones:

Parents who would like to attend this year as chaperone are encouraged to apply. Active participation in water activities is required of chaperones, so we ask that you **fill out the attached chaperone application**. Please e-mail that application to **Mr. Feinberg at jfeinberg@oakparkusd.org or deliver it at the student window/office** as soon as possible. The Catalina committee will evaluate all candidates to select the most experienced chaperones for the trips. Chaperones are asked to pay a reduced camp fee (\$172). Chaperones will be required to attend a mandatory meeting on Thursday October 30, 2014 from 5:30-6:15 as well as the rally later that evening at 6:30. **WE NEED YOU!**

Next Steps:

Attend the Catalina Rally on Thursday October 30, 2014. Students who are attending CIMI will receive trip slips and further instructions, such as what to bring and what to expect on the trip.

More info on the back 

Sincerely,

Jeff Feinberg and the 7th Grade Science Team

***Please note, cancellations (especially within two weeks of the trip) that are not filled by a student on the waiting list, might not be refunded*

Cherry Cove and Toyon Bay

November 17-19, 2014

Trip Summary Information for Camps.

- **Time:**
 - Students must arrive at MCMS no later than 6:30 AM Monday 11/17 and return 6:00 PM Wednesday 11/19.
- **Transportation:** Yellow Southwinds Company buses to Long Beach then Catalina Cruise Line to the island
- **Supervision:** MCMS faculty, parent chaperones, CIMI staff
- **Housing:** Tents or 3-10 person cabins, and dorms with spring mattress cots
- **Equipment:** Wetsuits, snorkeling gear, fins, etc. provided by CIMI for all water activities.
- **Food:** Family style dining hall, special menu accommodated (please tell us as soon as possible)
- **Donation:** \$343 per person due October 10th (souvenir shirts, sweatshirts, hats, additional \$15-30) to secure, and arrange camp space, transportation and chaperones. **Please note, cancellations (especially within two weeks of the trip) that are not filled by a student on the waiting list might not be refunded.
- **Registration:** Submit all paperwork and voluntary donation completed by Oct. 10, 2014. Return all paperwork to your child's science teacher.
- Please make donation check out to OPUSD. We prefer check but if cash is sent, then student will need to go to the student window for receipt that is then given to the science teacher. Please write student's name on check(s) in the memo section.
- **Catalina Rally and chaperone meeting on October 30, 2014**

- If you would like to donate **additional** funds to send additional 7th grade students, please fill out the donation slip below, attach it to your donation check, and turn it in with your registration form. **This fund allows more students to experience the Catalina trip without financial burden. Thank you for your generosity!**

Camp Scholarship Fund Donation

Name _____

Amount of your Donation \$ _____ Date _____

Thank you for supporting our 7th grade CIMI trip!