Dealey’s Environment Enrichment Program (DEEP)

Camp Grady Spruce

September 19-22, 2017

Dear Parents,

On September 19-22, 2017, the sixth grade class at Dealey will be going to Dealey’s Environmental Enrichment Program (DEEP) at Camp Grady Spruce, a camp of the YMCA located on the shores of Possum Kingdom Lake, for a week of outdoor education. This will be our 23rd year.

*Goals and Objectives*

The Outdoor Education Center is designed to effectively use the out-of-doors to facilitate and enrich learning related to the school curriculum.

*Program Objectives*

1. To help the students understand and experience the relationship between themselves and their environment.
2. To support all the components of the students’ curriculum: science, social studies, math, language arts, music, art, and others in the outdoors.
3. To give students a chance to succeed in a positive non-graded environment.
4. To help students understand and experience the relationship between themselves and to develop self-confidence and self-respect and an appreciation of their own worth as individuals.
5. To strengthen social relationships through respect for others, cooperation and friendship.
6. To have a safe, fun, and memorable experience.

*What to Bring and What to Expect*

Students will stay in modern cabins. The cabins have air conditioning, hot and cold water, sinks, toilets, a shower, and a refrigerator. The cabins have nine beds (one for the cabin leader and eight for the students). The cabins will be clean upon arrival and everything will be in working order.

Meals start with the first day’s supper and continue through the last day’s lunch. The groups should bring a sack lunch for the first afternoon. The meals are served buffet style and everyone can go back for as much as they want. Students will take turns at “hopper duty,” or KP, which is what the Center staff calls setting-up and sweeping the dining hall. The food service staff will take care of all the food preparation, serving, and dish washing.

This is the twenty-second year that Dealey has gone to the Outdoor Education Program at Camp Grady Spruce. The Camp, owned by the YMCA, is located on the shores of Possum Kingdom Lake. The tuition for the camp is $180. It is the wish of the Dealey community that all the children experience Camp Grady. If you would like to make a donation to help cover your child’s cost, it would be appreciated. If you would like to sponsor another child or two, we would be grateful. Both our PTA and the school support this program through fund-raising activities. If you are donating by check, please make the check out to Dealey. If you wish to claim a tax deduction, the form is included in the packet and should be returned to the school for the proper signatures. The buses will leave Dealey at 8:30 on September 19 and return on September 22 around 3:00.

*Students should bring the following supplies to camp:*

4 T-Shirts personal toiletries book to read

1 long-sleeved shirt 3 shorts jacket

2 jeans paper and pencil 4 socks

4 underwear towel and washcloth backpack

sunscreen flashlight and batteries

rain coat canteen or water bottle

pillow/ 1 set twin sheets and light blanket or sleeping bag

Optional: sunglasses, camera, flip flops, and fishing equipment, and money for camp stores. Snacks may be brought but only if you bring enough to share with your entire cabin (8-10).

Do not bring: jewelry, radios, IPods, cell phones, CD players, curling irons, hair dryers, electronic games, knives, and new, expensive tennis shoes.

If your child has any special or medical problems (i.e., allergies), please bring this to our attention. Contact the school if you feel that these problems may interfere with your child's participation in this activity. All medicines should be turned in to Ms. Calderon the day you leave with your name and directions for administration.

Important Information on Dealey's Environmental Enrichment Program (DEEP) at Camp Grady Spruce

Camp Health History - REQUIRED - Please fill it out and return it to your child's teacher. (This form does not require a physician's signature or a visit to the doctor.)

Green Permission Slip - REQUIRED - Please fill it out and return it to your child's teacher.

Camp Grady Spruce Parental Authorization/Release Form - REQUIRED. Please fill it out and return it to your child's teacher.

Emergency phone at camp: 940-682-6004 or 940-779-3411

Write to your child before he/she leaves. Kids love to receive mail. We encourage you to write to your child and mail your letters before they leave for camp. Remember it's a rural area and your correspondence may take a few days longer to get there. Send all correspondence to your child at:

Child's Name

YMCA Camp Grady Spruce/Dealey Montessori

3000 Park Road 36

Graford, TX 76449

On Tuesday, September 19, 2017, be sure to pack your child a lunch and drink. When your child arrives at school, all sleeping bags and gear should be left outside on the Edgemere side by the tennis courts. The buses will arrive by 8:30. We will leave as quickly as possible. Don't be late. On Friday, September 22, the buses will return to school by 3:00. The District will have sickness and accident insurance for each student and adults for the time they are at Camp Grady Spruce. As a parent, you need to be aware that the camp cannot be held liable for any accidents or injuries that may occur at camp. The insurance the school has purchased will cover sickness and accidents.

Sixth Grade Parents!

Chaperones/Cabin Leaders Needed!

Meeting Thursday, September 15, at 3:45

Chaperones and cabin leaders are needed for Dealey's Environmental Enrichment Program (DEEP) held at Camp Grady Spruce from September 20-23.

Last spring we sent out requests for chaperones. The response was overwhelming. Thank you if you returned your form. You are the official chaperones. If circumstances have changed regarding your availability, please let us know. We are still short one male chaperone. If you can be a chaperone for the four days or even for one or two days, your time will be appreciated.

The chaperones will be cabin leaders, provide assistance on trails, and will help with arts and crafts. All volunteers and chaperones must complete a Partners in Education Volunteer Application. According to DISD policy, everybody who has contact with the students must submit this form every year. To get an application, go to www.dallasisd.org, click on *Support our Schools*, click on *Partners/Volunteers,* and click on *Application.* When the application is complete, please print a copy of it and bring it to school.

Even if you did fill out a form last spring, please complete this fall's form to confirm that you will be able to be a cabin leader.

I will be able to be a cabin leader/chaperone at the camp during the following times:

 Tuesday-Friday (September 20-23, 2016)

 OR

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_(Please specify which days)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Cell Phone

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Child's Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Chaperone's Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Child's homeroom teacher's name)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_e-mail