Dear Parents/Carers

**ABERNETHY OUTDOOR CENTRE 4th – 8th March 2024**

Thank you to all who attended my presentation last night regarding our Primary 7 Annual Residential Trip to the Abernethy Outdoor Centre in Nethybridge.  If you would like to reserve a place for your child, we require a deposit of £80 to be paid by Sunday 1st October 2023.  **Please note that this deposit is non-refundable**.  Payment can be made by transferring £80 to:

Fishermoss Primary School

Account No 00388986

Sort Code 80-12-06

**Please use your child’s name followed by AB as reference i.e. JoeBloggsAB**

Once the deposit has been transferred, please email Fishermoss.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk providing your child’s name and add the following statement:

‘I am aware of the terms and conditions of cancelling this trip’.

The total cost of our week at Abernethy is **£396.**Payment of the remaining balance of **£316** will be due by Sunday 21st January 2024 at the very latest. Abernethy Centre Cancellation policy states deposits are non-refundable & where a cancellation occurs within 42 days before the holiday is due to begin, you will be liable for the full fee.

A small number of parents and pupils did not attend the meeting at school, and I am aware that this was in some cases due to other commitments or childcare. If you would like a copy of my presentation slides, then please let me know. If non-attendance was the result of concerns about financing the trip, or a pupil’s anxiety about being away from home, then please do not hesitate to contact me at school to discuss specific concerns and I am sure together we can find solutions.  No pressure intended, only encouragement.

**A few reminders and some details to help those not at the meeting……**

**Activity Information Details……**All activities are beginner level and these may include Adventure Course, Archery, Aerial Runway, Bushcraft, Climbing Wall, Dry-Ski slope, Forest Adventure, Jacobs Ladder, Orienteering and the Silver Maze…. all of which are undertaken within the grounds of the Abernethy Outdoor Centre. There may be the opportunity for canoeing at Loch Morlich but this will be weather dependant……travel there will be by the centre minibuses.  Pupils will also have the opportunity for a daily swim session in addition to use of the games room, sports hall and outdoor sports facilities. Pupils do not require any experience or training to undertake any of these activities.  That’s what makes it all such great fun and a wonderful experience!

**Staff Attending……**Miss Sangster, Mrs Shepherd, Mrs McRae and me!  Pupils will be informed of their School Group Leader the week before we leave, and pupils will be informed of their room allocation on arrival at the centre.

**Journey……**Monday 4th March-Coach from Fishermoss to Abernethy via Landmark Forest Adventure Park, Carrbridge.  Pupils come to school at the normal time on the morning of departure and the coach will leave at 9:30am.  Toilet stop/break at Huntly. Friday 8th March-Coach from Abernethy to Fishermoss via Landmark Forest Adventure Park, Carrbridge and toilet stop/break at Huntly.The coach is due back at school at around 3pm on the Friday and parents are encouraged to meet their children off the bus.  We will telephone the school if we are delayed.  Pupils will go into school until 3.20pm if no one is there to meet them off the bus.

**Accommodation address……**

ABERNETHY OUTDOOR CENTRE

NETHEYBRIDGE

INVERNESS-SHIRE

PH25 3ED

TEL:  01479 821279

[www.abernethy.org.uk](http://www.abernethy.org.uk/)

**Luggage & Kit List**…… Please see the attached. There is also a copy of this on our website……go to ‘Events’à’Abernethy’ à’Kit List’.  As mentioned at the meeting, nothing new should be bought for Abernethy…old clothes are best!  If new wellies are required, then perhaps a letter to Santa would do the job!  If pupils do not have a waterproof jacket, or waterproof trousers, these items can be borrowed from the Abernethy Centre.  Pupils can bring a holdall, case, or rucksack…. whichever they would normally take on holiday…. labelled with pupil’s name and school + one smaller rucksack/back-pack for their lunch and to use on walks.

**Pocket Money……**an absolute maximum of £20……for use at Landmark and the shop at Abernethy.  This will be looked after by school staff and issued when required.

**Insurance……**The whole group will be insured by Aberdeenshire Council School Excursion Insurance Policy.  Please see the attached for information.

**Valuables……**Please refer to the attached information regarding insurance.  Any valuables taken e.g. watches, cameras etc will be the **pupils’ own responsibility**.  **Mobile phones should not be taken……**we want away from the perils of social media and pupils attempting to call each other through the night for ‘fun’.  However, if your child uses their phone for photographs and listening to music then the SIM card must be removed and left at home.

There will be reminders about all the information above and additional details/forms provided nearer the time re specific dates we require pocked money dropped off, medication forms, medical information, emergency contact details etc etc

As shared last night…...pupils attending Abernethy should keep practising making sandwiches, how to put a duvet cover and pillowcase on their bed and having sleepovers!

Our pupils will have a great time living the adventure that is Abernethy!

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions.

Kindest regards

**Margaret M. Ferguson**

**Head Teacher**

Fishermoss School

Berrymuir Road

Portlethen

Aberdeenshire

AB12 4UF

Tel:  01224 472875

Aberdeenshire Council Education and Children’s Services



**‘Being the best we can be’**

**Respect-Honesty-Responsibility-Kindness-Hardworking**