

Dear Parents,

In a very short time the seventh grade class from Grace Lutheran ,sixth grade class from Greengate school and the sixth grade class from Whitesburg Christian will be leaving on their trip to Dauphin Island Sea lab. We will be leaving from Grace Lutheran's South Parking lot (Behind Ben Porter) at 5:00am. It is important that you be at the school no later then 5:00 but no earlier then 4:30 (we cannot wait for people who are late. If we do not leave by 5:00 we will be late for our first activity in Montgomery.). Your child should eat before they arrive at school as we will not be stopping to eat on the way down. They can bring a drink and breakfast bars or pop tarts with them on the bus. The building will be open to use the rest rooms and the bus is rest room equipped.

On Tuesday we will be stopping in Montgomery on our way to the Sea Lab. While in Montgomery we will be visiting the Rosa Parks Museum, State House, the Capitol (restored to the time of the Civil War), Alabama Old Town and the Governor's Mansion. After dinner we'll continue on to Mobile where we will eat dinner (either Taco Bell or Chick Filet) and then traveling on to the sea lab arriving between 8 - 9pm. After settling into the dorm, I will be taking the students on a night walk around the sea lab.

Wednesday and Thursday will be full days at Dauphin Island. Students will take classes on the dune environment, Marsh and wetland habitats, history of the island and how hurricanes affect barrier islands, and a touch lab including the dissection of a squid. One Wednesday evening, we will be making our own Dauphin Island t-shirts. For this activity each child will need to bring one plain t-shirt (The paint adheres better if the shirt is washed before they paint.). If they want to be able to wear their shirt to school when we return, then the shirt needs to be one that will fit the dress code. The shirt may be any color. Thursday afternoon after our second class we will travel to Mobile to visit Battle Ship Park. Located in the park in addition to the USS Alabama is the WWII submarine Drum and several airplane exhibits that the students may visit. After we leave Battleship Park we will stop at a Golden Corral for dinner. The cost for this meal is included in the trip charge.

On Friday we will pack and load the bus before eating breakfast at the sea lab after which we board the bus and head home. I anticipate arriving back at Grace around 3:30 pm. I will be in contact with the school office during the day. If you wish you may call the school after 2:00 pm to find out a more exact time of our arrival.

Dress for the trip is as follows. On Tuesday students will be allowed to wear shorts. **Shorts worn on Tuesday need to be dressy. This means that Umbro or other types of sports shorts are not acceptable. Wear your Grace spirit shirt or your blue band shirt on Tuesday.** Once at Dauphin Island, shorts (sports types included) and T-shirts are permissible **no tank tops or spaghetti strap tops are allowed.** No short shorts are allowed mid-thigh or longer are required. Shoes must be worn at all times, sandals may be worn while we are at the sea lab. But for several of the classes where the students must go in the water, they will need a pair of shoes that lace up. The sea lab does not permit sandals to be worn for these activities. Students should have at least two pairs of shoes since the ones that get wet will not dry overnight. It is advisable to send along a jacket and at least one pair of long pants, as it does get cool in the evenings. We are looking into the possibility of using the swimming pool at the Sea Lab. At this time I have not been notified that the pool will be available. I will let you know before we leave if this is going to be an option. All swimming suits brought on the trip must be modest in design (no two piece suits for the ladies).

Other items that you will need to bring along;

1. Your own bedding. This may either be a sleeping bag or sheets and blankets and you will also need to bring your own pillow. If you bring a sleeping bag it is be a good idea to bring a sheet to cover the mattress with. Some of the mattresses are plastic coated others are cotton ticking. Bring at least two towels. You should also send a plastic garbage bag for dirty wet clothing to be brought home in. Remember to label the garbage bag with your child's name!
2. A small container of insect repellent and sun screen.
3. The cost of the trip will be \$167.00. This covers all expenses except the meals that we will eat on the road. Bring money for Tuesday lunch and dinner, and Friday lunch. The cost for Thursday night's dinner at Golden Corral is included in your trip price. The money for the trip is due by April 24th. We want all of our students to go on this trip.

You may also wish to send money to purchase a T- shirt at Dauphin Island. These cost ranges \$16 - \$20. There is a coke machine available at the sea lab that the students may use at specified times. Students should bring change for this purpose.

4. Students may bring snacks with them for the drive down. However, they may not bring potato chips, popcorn, or chewing gum. Students may bring a drink on the bus although there will be no coolers provided. They may purchase a soft drink when we stop at the rest areas. Once we are at the sea lab they are not allowed to have food in the rooms. A nightly snack will be provided for the students. **Energy drinks may not be brought along on the trip, nor may they be purchased at the rest areas.**
5. Students may bring portable radios, tape players, disc players, and game boys, provided earphones are used. Once at the sea lab, these may not be used during the day. They may be used in the evening when students are sent to their rooms to get ready for bed. An extra set of batteries should also be sent along. All disks, tapes and game boy cartridges should have student's names on them. **No personal DVD players may be brought on the trip.**
6. Some type of rain gear. A poncho or raincoat will be sufficient.
7. Paper and pencils need to be brought along as a journal is required. There are specific times during the day that these will be worked on
9. If your child is on any type of medication, even over the counter type medications a medication authorization form needs to be filled out. All medicines are to be given to Mr. Cypher prior to leaving. This includes all over the counter medications as well.

As always, we want all of the students to participate. If you have special concerns about your child being able to participate, please feel free to contact Dr. Brusick or myself with your concerns.

If your child has any type of food allergies it is important that I know about them in advance so that I can contact the sea lab. They are willing to work with us on this and provide food that your child can eat without worry or problems.

I'm looking forward to this trip it will be an exciting and enriching experience for your child. Even after leading this trip for the last 18 years I always manage to learn something new each time I go.

By signing the attached permission form, parents acknowledge that they have read the attached information and agree to abide by all rules and requirements for this trip.

Serving Him who first served us,

Mr. Alan Cypher

PARENTAL PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN SCHOOL ACTIVITY

Students have many opportunities to participate in various extracurricular activities at school as an outgrowth of classroom interests or special interest clubs. Students are encouraged to participate in these optional activities. However, GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL CANNOT ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SAFETY AND WELFARE OF STUDENTS WHILE THEY ARE OFF CAMPUS BEYOND MAKING REASONABLE PROVISION FOR THEIR SUPERVISION.

Your signature below constitutes and is evidence of 1.) Your consent to permit your son/daughter to participate in the school activity; 2.) Your agreement to accept general liability for the participation of your son/daughter in this school activity; and 3.) Your agreement to waive, release, indemnify, and hold harmless GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL, its members, agents, and employees, from any and all claims and liability arising out of your child's participation in the school activity and transportation thereto and from as described below.

*I request that my son/daughter, _____,
participate in the following school activity: **7th grade trip to Dauphin Island**
I understand that the students will travel by **Charter Bus**, leaving on Tuesday, May 5th –
Friday May 8th around 3:30 pm*

*Chaperone will be **Mr. Cypher & Mrs. Brown***

This is a school-sponsored event, and all school rules will be enforced.

*In Loco Parentis: Should my child require medical attention as a result of accident or serious illness, I do grant **Mr. Cypher or Mrs. Brown** permission to authorize a licensed medical practitioner to render medical aid and treatment to the above-named person.*

*Allergies or Special Medical Needs? IYes INo If yes, explain _____
(If more space is needed, use the back of this sheet)*

*Health/Accident Insurance? IYes INo Policy number _____
(Attach any needed I.D. Card)*

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

(Please sign in Ink)

Emergency Information

Student's Full Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____ S. S. Number _____

Home Phone _____ Date of Last tetanus shot _____

Medicines now taken _____

Allergies

Medicine _____

Food _____

Any present medical conditions _____

Father's Name _____ work phone _____

Cell Phone _____ Beeper _____

Place of employment _____

Mothers Name _____ work phone _____

Cell phone _____ Beeper _____

Place of Employment _____

Insurance Policy Number _____

(Attach copy any needed insurance cards)

Primary person responsible for medical payments _____

Name of friend or relative to be contacted in the event of an emergency

Name _____ Relationship _____

Phone number(s) _____