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Education Department  
Giffnock Primary School  
Academy Road  
Giffnock  
Glasgow, G46 6JL

Parent / Carer of P7 Pupils 29th August 2016

Dear Parent / Carer,

An important and extremely popular part of our Primary 7's learning experiences this year will be their residential excursion. There are a number of residential sites which are approved by East Renfrewshire Authority, these being fully risk assessed and deemed suitable for our children to use. Over the last few years at Giffnock, there have been different sites utilised, and at different times of the year including both the autumn and summer terms.

During the latter part of last session, the possibility of using Dounans Outdoor Education Centre (Aberfoyle) was explored. Dounans is a very well established residential site and has been used, amongst many others, by both Braidbar and Thornliebank Primaries over the last two sessions, including at the same time in March 2016.

Following very positive reports on the site, it was planned that all three primaries in the Woodfarm Cluster would use Dounans during March 2017. Alongside all of the wonderful aspects of a residential week for our children, this then will have the added benefit of acting as part of the transition to high school. Our children will only share rooms with children from Giffnock Primary, however it will allow all of the Primary 7s in the cluster to spend time around one another in a newly shared setting.

We have provisionally booked for all of our Primary 7 to attend the residential experience during the week beginning Monday 13th March 2016. I believe that such residential experiences provide our children with very significant, often unique learning outcomes and, whilst attendance is of course not compulsory, we would encourage all of our families to send their children.

In order to support your decision on this, we have organised for a representative from Dounans to provide a presentation to our Primary 7 children and families at 6.30pm on Tuesday 20th September. At the meeting, there will be an opportunity to ask any questions you may wish to clarify.

Following the meeting, if you do wish your child to go, a deposit of £50 will be necessary by Friday 30th September in order for us to secure places with Dounans. The overall cost of the five day, four night excursion will be approximately £225. The exact amount can only be confirmed once the number attending, and thereby transport costs, is established. Our ParentPay system will be used for this and further details on cost and payments will follow the meeting.

Please return the tear-off slip attached to confirm your attendance at the Information Evening and I look forward to seeing you there.

Yours faithfully,

Rob Lawson

Acting Head Teacher

**Dounans Outdoor Education Centre: Primary 7 Residential 2017**

**Information Meeting**

**6.30pm Tuesday 20th September 2016**

Child's name: ..... Class .....

I will/ will not\* be attending the meeting at 6.30pm on Tuesday 20th September 2016

Parent/ Carer name: .....

Signed: .....