

**Carew Peel Forest School - EOTC**  
**School trip to Mesopotamia Station / Rangitata Gorge**  
**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2017**



In last week's notice you were made aware that we were planning a school adventure to Mesopotamia as part of our Mountains to the Sea (*Ko Rangitata te awa nei*) topic theme for this year. We are pleased to confirm that this will go ahead next Tuesday, weather permitting of course.

Our learning for the day at the source of the Rangitata is centred around building the children's understanding of:

- the physical features of the area and the structure of a braided river
- the variety of habitats a braided river provides
- the diverse range of plants and animals naturally adapted to live in different environments
- a sense of pride and responsibility through experiencing, appreciating and enjoying this beautiful rugged environment at our back door.

**Below is the planned timetable for the day:**

**8.45am** - meet at school for parent briefing

**9:00am** - leave school (buses and cars)

**10:15am - arrive Mesopotamia Station Cookhouse** - morning tea, toilets. A special thank you to the Prouting family for welcoming us to the station and for their generosity in making the facilities available to us. Sue will brief us on Health and Safety and then will talk to us about the station.

**10:45am** - travel to Bush Stream for workshops

**11:00am** Assemble into 'Care crews' - mixed aged groups for 4 different sessions. Teachers stay with their group and rotate around the 30 minute workshops.

**Workshops** - We appreciate the involvement of our 'outside experts' mentioned below.

1. Hamish Stevens from Fish and Game - fish and electric fishing
2. Debbie Eddington from Ecan - invertebrates, water testing
3. Brad from DOC - flora & fauna, biodiversity, birds - wrybills, predators
4. Teachers - geology and sketching (teachers take own group)

**1:00pm** - return to the Cookhouse for lunch and toilets

**1:45pm** - leave to return to school approx 3pm

**Please complete the permission slip below and return to school by Friday this week.**

We will have our school Emergency File with us, which has student emergency contacts and medical needs. If you need to update us further please add these details to the permission slip.

We will be taking our three school buses, however we would like to encourage as many parents/caregivers as possible to join us on the trip as we will also need a lot of adults to help us with supervision. Please indicate on the permission form below if you are able to assist us.

The drivers will be doing their normal bus runs in the morning, so if your child is not travelling to school on the bus please advise the driver.

Parents who are coming on the trip will need to meet at school at 8:45am when we will have a short briefing on travel arrangements and supervision. We will leave school sharply at 9:00am. We intend to travel in convoy up the Rangitata Gorge Rd to Mesopotamia, with a

lead and tail vehicle. Drivers need to be aware that the sealed road changes to a gravel road near Waikari Hills. Please note that cell phone coverage ends at Boundary Creek. We are making arrangements to carry one or two Personal Locator Beacons in case of an emergency. (If anyone has a PLB they are willing to bring or loan us for the day, we would appreciate hearing from you.) We will also have access to the station telephone landline should we need to. Station holders along the road will be made aware of our presence on the day.

**Please ensure that your child brings and/or wears the following items:**

- Morning tea and picnic lunch
- Water bottle
- Warm Hat
- Strong footwear
- Warm clothes (some spares if necessary)
- Rain jacket

Parent helpers please do the same, you also might like to include a rug / tarpaulin to sit on.

If the trip is cancelled because of bad weather the children will attend school as usual. We will advise you in an email, a message on the school phone and through Flexibuzz.

Thank you again for your support - this makes our trip possible.

We're all looking forward to a great day out in the high country!  
Regards  
Kay and the CPF team

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## **Permission Slip**

**Please complete and return by this Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> May**

### **School trip to Mesopotamia Station / Rangitata Gorge Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2017**

I give permission for my child/children to attend the school trip to Mesopotamia.

I am **able** / **not able** to assist with transport and supervision.

I can provide transport for \_\_\_\_\_ children (includes my own).

Any current health issues to inform us of? \_\_\_\_\_

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

This notice has also been sent by email  
Hard copy sent home 23/05/17

