

Swift Creek 7th Grade
Busch Gardens Field Trip Information

Friday, December 16, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Plans are being made for the 7th grade end of the year field trip. Our trip is scheduled for Friday, May 19, 2023, to Busch Gardens in Tampa, Florida. Please read the information carefully regarding this trip. The total cost for the trip is \$150 per student. This fee covers the cost of admission to the park, transportation costs, and any other fees associated with the field trip. The fee for this trip will be due no later than March 31, 2023. Space is limited and registration is on a first come, first served basis. Please go to the provided links to give information on your student.

Attached you will find a payment plan and chaperone information, eligibility requirements, and a permission form to be turned in with payment for the trip. Chaperone spots are limited and will be on a first come, first served basis. Chaperone payment will be due at a later date. Do not send in a chaperone payment with your child's payment. If you are interested in volunteering as a chaperone, please follow the link below to become an approved LCS (Leon County Schools) volunteer AND sign up on the sign-up genius with the link provided. You will be contacted later to pay the chaperone portion of the trip.

Money collection for this trip will begin on January 26th. For payment plans, you will make a payment in January, February, and March. You may pay in full beginning January 26th or take advantage of the payment plan attached.

Thank you -

Swift Creek 7th Grade Team

To become an approved volunteer please go to: <https://volunteers.leonschools.net/>

7th Grade Busch Gardens Trip Info (Cost \$150)

Departure/Return:

- **Date: Friday, May 19th - 5:30 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.**
 - **Depart SCMS at 5:30 a.m.**
 - Students, staff, and chaperones will report to the cafeteria by 5:15 a.m. for check in prior to boarding the bus. Parents, please park in the upper lot. Do not enter the back gates.
 - **Return to SCMS: 10:30 p.m. (parent pick up loop at the front of the school)**
 - **NO PARKING ALLOWED ON THE BUS RAMP. PARENTS SHOULD PARK IN THE UPPER LOT AND PAENT PICKUP/DROP OFF.** Chaperone interest link:

Dress:

- **Students must wear a TEAL Swift Creek Shirt. Field Trip shirts can be purchased in the front office for \$10 if you do not have a teal shirt.**
- SCMS dress code will be enforced except hats and sunglasses.
- **Large bags are not allowed with students in the park.** Drawstring bags are recommended. (Larger bags are ok to leave on the bus.)

Other Items:

- Food and drink for the bus trip: **Bring only bottled drinks with screw caps.** Bring snacks that are not messy for the bus trip. You are responsible for keeping your area clean.
- *Students are responsible for anything brought on the trip and SCMS is not responsible for stolen or lost items. (Please, no flash photography while on the bus.)*
- A pillow and light blanket are nice to have on the bus.
- An appropriate change of clothes if you are planning to go on water rides. Change back into dry clothes before returning to the bus. You may rent a locker to store your change of clothes while in the park.

Medications:

- **If your child will need medication (either prescription or over the counter) on the day of the trip, please deliver it, in its original container (labeled) to Mrs. Sears at school the morning of the trip, along with the Medication Permission form (can be found online). Place the medication bottle or package in a zip-lock bag. The medical form can be found on the SCMS website.**
- Parents are requested to pick up any leftover medication immediately after the trip from the chaperones on the bus or from Mrs. Sears within one week of the trip. After one week, all remaining medications will be discarded.

Meal Arrangements:

- Students will need to bring money to cover the cost of their meal. Food can be purchased from a variety of places inside the park.

Park Rules:

- Students will be allowed to enjoy Busch Gardens on their own; however, everyone must stay with at least one other person from Swift Creek. Students are not allowed to join up with strangers or other non-approved adults met at the parks.
- We will arrive at Busch Gardens around 10:00 a.m. We will depart between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. Students will receive detailed departure information upon arrival at the park.
- Chaperones from SCMS will be stationed at the Chaperone Command Center (Location will be announced later). Report there if you have a problem.

Behavior:

- ***Students will not be able to participate if they receive more than one referral during the semester the trip is occurring. Students will not participate if they receive more than one Class 2 referral or any Class 3 or Class 4 referral during the school year. Any student receiving more than 4 referrals in the school year will not be allowed to attend field trips.***
- Students are expected to follow Swift Creek Middle School behavior policies during the trip. Disciplinary action will be taken if rules are broken on the bus or in the park. Think before you act.
- If you choose to break a law that results in your being arrested by security personnel, please be reminded that you may be required to remain in Tampa at the police department until your parents can come to pick you up.

Academic Guidelines:

- **Students must meet all academic expectations for the end of the year field trip.**
- Students must have earned all quality points on the previous nine weeks' report card. Students in grade recovery (PLATO) for any course will not be able to attend an enrichment field trip.

Busch Gardens Permission Form

Swift Creek Middle School

Read and complete below.

My child has my permission to participate in the 7th grade field trip to Busch Gardens Tampa in Tampa, FL on May 19TH, 2023. **I WILL PICK UP MY CHILD IN THE PARENT DROP-OFF AREA BETWEEN 10:30 PM – 11:00PM ON FRIDAY, MAY19TH. (PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE BUS RAMP WITH YOUR VEHICLE AS THIS BLOCKS THE WAY FOR THE CHARTER BUSES.)**

I understand that if my child is detained by security personnel after violating the law, he/she may be required to remain in Tampa at the police department (after parent notification) while the students and chaperones return to Swift Creek. At that point, all legal and transportation concerns become the parent's responsibility.

Students must have a current AP form on file to attend. Students must also wear a teal SCMS t-shirt while on the field trip.

If my child needs to take medication that day, I will provide it in its original prescription container or OTC package, clearly marked with the child's name and dosage information, along with a medication permission form, and enclosed in a labeled zip-loc bag. Medication permission forms will be provided closer to the trip date. Medications must be delivered directly from parent to teacher (not brought by student). This form can be downloaded from the SCMS website.

Trip Cost: \$150 for students

Chaperone fee is \$160 and will be paid at a later date, with confirmed spot

Payment schedule Below – see attached payment plan

Payment #1 – Due January 26, 27 - \$50 due

Payment # 2 – Due February 23,24 - \$50 due

Payment # 3 – Due March 30, 31 - \$50 due

Checks should be made payable to SCMS. Please make sure a phone number is provided on the check.

With any activity or field trip that requires a fee, there is always a possibility that exact costs cannot be determined until the number of participants is determined and after the trip is over. Any funds remaining from the activity or field trip will be used for miscellaneous end of the year student activities that directly benefit your child.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Parent/Guardian printed name

Student printed name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Email: _____

Phone Numbers: _____