

August 31, 2009

Dear Middle School Parents:

August is here and soon it will be time for our 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Middle School retreat. Everything is being prepared and planned for a fantastic retreat at Bonclarken in Flat Rock, NC. The purpose of this trip is three-fold:

1. To acquaint/introduce new students and faculty to the returning student body and faculty in a more informal setting.
2. To provide opportunity for “retreat” and spiritual challenge.
3. To promote MRCA unity and cooperation.

This year’s retreat will be Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. The cost of the retreat will be **\$155** per student. We wanted to send you this packet early so that you would have time to prepare for this retreat and the expense.

If you feel led to provide funds for scholarships, there is an enclosed form that would help ensure that every student would be able to attend.

**A. Schedule**

We will leave MRCA at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2009. We will arrive back at MRCA by 2:45 p.m. on Friday, September 18, 2009.

**B. Meals**

Your child will be provided with lunch and dinner on Wednesday, breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Thursday, and breakfast on Friday.

We will be stopping in Hendersonville for lunch on Friday. Your child will need to have money for this meal.

If your child desires in-between meal snacks, he/she can bring some with them, or buy snacks. They will need spending money for this. Please do not send gum with your child.

**C. What to bring:**

Bible

**OLD** Casual clothes – label all clothes – Must abide by MRCA dress code guidelines for shorts & tops

Swim suit (girls must wear one-piece bathing suit only)

**OLD** sneakers for running activities & games

Warm clothes (The evenings can be quite cold)

Only ONE suitcase per person (no hanging bags) – please label

**Towels**

**Sleeping Bag or linens and pillow with pillow case**

Flashlight

Toiletries (soap, shampoo, etc.)

**Trash Bag with your “Name” on it for wet and/or muddy items**

**Sunscreen**

***(7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> - SEND THESE ITEMS TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY OR TUESDAY:***

***7<sup>th</sup> graders –***

Mr. Myburgh’s Homebase – Bring 1 Bag/Box of Cookies

Mrs. Swiger’s Homebase – Bring 1 Large Bag of Chips and/or Snack Mix, Doritos, etc.

## 8<sup>th</sup> graders

Mrs. Pennell – Bring 1 (2 Liter) Bottle Soft Drink (Regular &/or Diet)

Mrs. Golla – Bring 1 Large Bottle Gatorade

### **D. What not to bring:**

Bad attitude

Cell Phones

Electronic games or devises (Gameboy, Nintendo, Walkman, etc.)

Fireworks – (Camp rules forbid any fireworks)

Excess money or jewelry

Gum

Shaving Cream

### **E. Messages:**

You can get a message to your child by calling the camp at (828) 692-2223.

### **F. Activities:**

There are a number of limited extra activities that will be made available and assigned by grade level from 8<sup>th</sup> grade down according to availability.

### **G. Nurses**

We will have two nurses, at Bonclarken to treat the children. If your child is on ANY medication, please indicate that on the back of the Consent form. Please call Shelley Bauer at **991-9633** with any changes from what is put on the medical form or with any other medical concerns. This is very important! **Please bring the medicine to the Middle School office on Tuesday morning, September 15<sup>th</sup>.** All prescription medicine should be in a labeled prescription bottle with student's name and dosage which includes Nasal Sprays. The consent form must be notarized. If you are unable to locate a Notary, Charlene Clement in the Middle School, will be glad to notarize for you.

### **H. Registration:**

All money and medical consent forms should be returned to the school by **Friday, September 11, 2009**. Money should be sent to the MS office. Medical consents should be returned to your child's **homebase teacher**.

### **I. Prayer:**

The facilities at Bonclarken are terrific, the people up there are experts, the schedule proven, our speaker is prepared, but without prayer it will not be enough. I challenge you to bathe this retreat with your prayers. Pray for God to give us safety, good weather, a fun time, the breaking down of barriers and building up of one another. Pray for God to do a supernatural work in the lives of the students. Pray for 100% attendance by students.

Please have the fee of **\$155** along with the notarized medical release/medication form and "Youth Release Activity Form, sent in to the middle school office no later than **Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the office at 268-2210 ext. 309. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tony Lesley  
Middle School Principal

Enclosure

**BONCLARKEN 2009 SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

It is our desire that every student in the middle school attend the **BONCLARKEN 2009 Retreat**. One concern we have is that a student may not be able to attend due to financial need.

Some of our families will find it difficult to come up with the total price for camp. Although I believe the cost is a good deal, it is still a lot of money for some families.

This year I want to bring before you our need. If you can help financially to make Bonclarken 2009 a reality for some students, please return your donation with the form below to:

Mitchell Road Christian Academy  
Bonclarken Fund  
207 Mitchell Road  
Greenville, SC 29615.

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Yes, I want to make Bonclarken a reality for others.

Here is my gift of     \$5                     \$10                     \$20                     Other

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_