

VCMS 6th grade students are invited to attend a field trip designed to complement our Earth Science curriculum where we will be participating in hands-on learning sessions led by Paynes Prairie educational staff and hiking an ecosystem trail.

## Overall Trip Details:

- **Where:** Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park, 100 Savannah Blvd., Micanopy, FL 32667
- **When: Thursday, November 16, 2023 OR Friday, November 17, 2023**
  - Time of Departure: 8:30 a.m. from VCMS
  - Time of Return: 2:45p.m. at VCMS
- **Cost: \$20.00**
  - Cash or check made payable to VCMS
  - By Monday, October 16, 2023 at the latest
  - Return to your student's Science Teacher

## Additional Details:

- **Eligibility:** Behavior and academic progress will be taken into consideration for participation in this event. Administration will make the final determination regarding a student's eligibility **up to the day** of the event. Please understand that a failure to exhibit our core values could exclude a student from this event **even if** payment has already been made.
- **It is a regular school day if your student is NOT attending the trip.** Any student that does not attend the trip will follow a regular school day schedule.
- **Cost Includes:** Admission to Paynes Prairie, materials for water testing, chartered bus transportation.
- **Sessions:**
  - Visitor Center exhibits and Lookout Tower
  - Water Quality Testing Lab
  - Hike on Lake Trail
  - Presentation on human impact by indigenous people and ranchers on Paynes Prairie and restoration efforts
- **Lunch:**
  - Students can bring a bagged lunch from home that does not need to be refrigerated/Bring WATER!
  - OR**
  - Students may **preorder** a lunch from the VCMS cafeteria, which includes: Peanut butter & jelly sandwich, chips, fruit, and small water bottle. If chosen, students' accounts will automatically be charged as per their usual lunch account purchase method.

PHONE: (352) 259-0044 · FAX: (352) 753-1113

CORRESPONDENCE: 450 Village Campus Circle · The Villages · FL · 32162

WEBSITE: [www.tvcs.org](http://www.tvcs.org)

**Additional Details (*continued*):**

- **Dress Code:** Regular school uniform and dress code guidelines should be followed, green or yellow polo preferred. LANYARD must be worn. If a student comes to school that day out of dress code, they will not be allowed to attend. **No backpacks**, only a sling bag, if needed.
- **Additional Money Needed:** Visitor Center Store, if desired.
- **Chaperones:** A **limited number** of chaperones are needed for this trip. Due to the limited space in the group instruction, there are only 16 chaperones needed per day. We are also limited by the number of bus seats we have available for transportation. If you are interested in attending this trip along with your 6th grade student and serving as a chaperone, please indicate that on the bottom portion of the student page but do NOT pay the Chaperone amount at that time. Once we know the total number of students attending, we will contact you if you are selected to participate.

Each teacher will date and time stamp the student's paperwork when it is returned with payment and you will be selected in that order. Please remember that you must have the appropriate paperwork completed (*23-24 Volunteer Application*) and a background check (*23-24 Volunteer Fingerprint Procedures*) done BEFORE the trip. You can review the requirements on our website here: <https://www.tvcs.org/middleSchool/forms.asp>

- **Other PI Opportunities:** We will be taking donations for bottled water and snacks for this trip and you will be credited for your donations. More information about this opportunity will be sent out after we know the total number of students attending.

We are excited about this opportunity and appreciate your consideration. If you have other questions, please feel free to contact one of us and we will respond as quickly as possible.

Mrs. Tatro: Rosanne.Tatro@tvcs.org

Mrs. Miller: Marnie.Miller@tvcs.org

**\*\*\*\* PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE FOR YOUR REFERENCE \*\*\*\***

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