

THE HIDDEN VILLA FIELD TRIP

Dear Parents,

Room 18 has the opportunity to go on an additional science-related field trip Friday, November 21st. The cost of this field trip is \$16 per student.

Pioneer is in the middle of a fundraising for school field trips and activities and I strongly encourage you to participate in these fundraisers. Because our field trip is happening while we are fundraising for other school field trips and activities, I need to ask you to contribute \$16 or whatever they can afford for your child's field trip. If you are unable to pay the full \$16, please give whatever you can afford. **Every child will get to attend this field trip regardless of how much they pay.**

Room 18's field trip is to Hidden Villa. Hidden Villa is a 1600-acre wilderness preserve and organic farm located in the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains in Los Altos Hills (see www.hiddenvilla.org for more information). Hidden Villa was founded by Josephine and Frank Duveneck, who generously opened their gates over 70 years ago to allow people to realize how essential it is to care for our land. Their tradition continues today as a non-profit trust.

Hidden Villa's curriculum is designed for 2nd-6th grades and starts with a two-hour classroom orientation by Hidden Villa naturalists a week before the field trip. Using a slide show, music, role-plays, and hands-on teaching stations, the concepts and attitudes to be experienced at Hidden Villa are presented to the children.

During their field trip at Hidden Villa, the children learn the importance of the farm and wilderness to our urban environment. They may take leftover lunches to the compost pile, compost to the garden, and garden plants to the animals who will turn them into wool sweaters, milk, eggs, or hairbrushes. Following Adobe Creek up into the wilderness, they explore a variety of plant communities, learn about food webs, predator/prey relationships, animal adaptations, and stewardship of the land.

Matthew Callison

*There will be additional field trip information coming shortly. **Please fill out the information below and return this form with \$16 or whatever you can afford. If you pay by check, please make the check out to PIONEER STUDENT BODY.***

Student Name: _____

Field Trip Cost \$16.00 I am including \$ _____ for my child.