

Tuesday, March 31, 2015

We are very pleased to tell you about the upcoming Foundation Year & Form 7 Spring Term Outdoor Education program. This overnight retreat is designed to support the transition of each Form 7 boy from the Prep to the Upper School, and gives each Foundation Year student an opportunity to further develop his mentorship and leadership skills and a chance to get to know the Prep students who will be joining his House next fall.

Next year, when your son is in IB1, he will be a mentor for a Year 1 student from his House. The Form 7 / FY Norval experience will focus on building a bond between the boys from both Grades, to help inform and strengthen these mentorship pairings for next year. Program components will include “get to know you” games, social opportunities and team-building exercises.

All students will come to Norval as part of their Upper School House groups, not by Prep or Upper School class groupings. Each House Group will consist of approximately 30 students (about 15 Form 7 and 15 Foundation Year students.) One Prep Faculty member and one Upper School Senior House Advisor for each house will accompany each group of 30 boys to Norval.

The one-night-and-one-day program will take place either April 13 to 14, or April 14 to 15, depending on your son’s House membership, in the following combinations:

Howard's, Martland's, McHugh's & Mowbray's:

Depart Monday, April 13th after school; return Tuesday, April 14th at 3:30 p.m.

Bremner's, Jackson's, Orr's & Scadding's:

Depart Tuesday, April 14th after school; return Wednesday, April 15th at 3:30 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: The Kilbarry Rd / North entrance of campus is the bus pick-up and drop-off point.

On the day of their trip, students should come to school with their bags packed and ready to go to Norval that afternoon. They can change into their casual clothes after school. Then the Form 7 Boys will arrive for a tour of the Upper School, guided by some of the Foundation Year boys from their soon-to-be new House. The Form 7 and Foundation Year boys will then have a pizza dinner together at the Upper School before boarding a school bus for Norval.

Students will be camping out overnight, either in tents or unheated cabins. Cabins and tents will be assigned by Grade, so your son will only be with other FY boys overnight. It can get quite cold at night in April at Norval, so please ensure that your son either has one sleeping bag good to -15 °C, or two sleeping bags so he can sleep one inside the other. If the bag is not “mummy” style, with a hood that he can draw around his head, then he might want to bring a warm hat for his head.

Please click [here](#) to complete the online parental consent form for this trip, and have your son read the suggested clothing list when packing. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.