**La Fontaine Community Camping Weekend Information Sheet**

**Friday 23rd and or Saturday 24th June 2017**

**This event was conceived by the PTA as a great opportunity to gather a large number of LFA families together, to enjoy the beautiful local countryside (and hopefully the weather) and to create a memorable and fun weekend for all involved. The costs charged will directly pay for the event only. It is not going to generate money for school.**

**Please return your booking form by email or put into the PTA post box (in the reception area by the school office) no later than 19th May so that we can confirm our numbers.**

**The site:**Cudham Shaws is located just 15 minutes from our school and is usually used for youth groups and girl guides. [**http://www.girlguidinglaser.org.uk/cudham**](http://www.girlguidinglaser.org.uk/cudham). It is a completely private 93 acre estate, combining rolling hills and ancient woodland. We have a designated camping area in the top field, access to a modest club-house, washing-up facilities and basic fire-building equipment. There are also flushing toilets and a small number of hot showers. You’ll be pleased to know the area for pitching tents is completely flat! Plenty of car parking space is available.

**Location**: Cudham Shaws Campsite, 144 Cudham Lane North, Cudham, TN14 7QT.

Follow the A21 from school towards the M25, when you descend the hill towards Green St Green and the large ‘Rose and Crown’ pub, take the third exit from the roundabout into Cudham Lane North. The campsite is approx. 1.5 miles along the winding lane on the right hand side. Once you enter the site, parking will be made available in a nearby ‘overflow’ carpark and our pitch is 3 minutes walk from the car park.

**Costs**: Children aged under Two camp free of charge. Children aged Two and over, along with adults will be charged the same rate of £7.50 per person per night. See booking form for further information and other chargeable optional activities.

**Responsibility:**Cudham Shaws management have kindly allowed us to book as a community group, asking that we adhere to their site code of conduct, and that each parent/carer are responsible for the children in their party.  T&Cs are attached in a separate document. The conditions primarily cover responsible and social behaviour, being considerate of others, littering etc. Please note that dogs are not allowed on site.

**Arrival details:** Anyone wishing to stay on Friday 23rd June is welcome to come directly from school. Anyone wanting to join for Saturday (24th) night only is welcome to arrive from 1pm.  We must all leave by 5pm on Sunday 25th.

**Food and drink:**Guests will need to plan their meals, picnic lunches etc. and pack accordingly. Everyone is free to bring or build a BBQ (perhaps a disposable one) and no doubt families may plan in advance to cook together. Fires need to be raised from the ground and there are quite a few metal crates provided for this purpose. Gas camping stoves are also fine to use.  The nearest food shops are the Holwood farm shop, Waitrose or a Co-op (all accessible by car). There is a great pub called the Blacksmith’s Arms very nearby, perhaps for Sunday lunch….  PLEASE NOTE that glasses for drinking are not permitted on site, so please bring alternatives (plastic etc.)  Where possible please avoid bringing any glass receptacles with you.

The loose plan is that guests camping on the Friday, will all bring some food to share on the Friday evening, if they wish. On Saturday evening at 6pm there will be a volunteer-run BBQ for anyone who’d rather keep it really simple! There will in fact be 3 separate BBQ’s, one for each of the dietary options (beef, pork, halloumi).  The meat supplied will be good-quality, free-range and the portions generous and the charge per person (children or adults) is a flat rate of £3.50.

Free tea, coffee and hot chocolate (self-service) will be available all weekend in the clubhouse.  There will also be refrigerated milk available to children wanting cereal for breakfast.

**Shelter:** Tents are to be pitched in our group area. For anyone who hasn’t camped before, try to borrow one perhaps? If families have larger tents, it might be possible to share? This will be left to you all to discuss and arrange privately.  Once we have all the booking forms, we will circulate a list to everyone so you can all see who is coming and make plans to share food, tents, transport etc.

**Entertainment:** The freedom to explore this beautiful site will be enough for many, but Cudham Shaws do offer a few organised activities like archery and grass-sledging.  On the booking form, you will see that the hire cost of each activity has been divided equally between the maximum number of participants. If there is more interest in any activity, we can look to add more sessions or activities.

There will be a roaring campfire at dusk on both evenings, with hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows (although you’ll probably want to bring more…). If anyone with or without a talent for music wishes to bring an instrument for a sing-song, please PLEASE do!

Simple toys and games like kites, tennis/badminton sets, Pétanque etc could be useful, there is a large garden game box available which we will rent for a few hours.

**Sunday:** There is an idea, for anyone keen, to book Sunday lunch at the Blacksmith’s Arms in Cudham. If you are interested, we can arrange to pay a deposit and book a large table in the award-winning garden. Please email Laura or Fiona separately if you would like more info.

<http://www.theblacksmithsarms.co.uk/>

**Hopefully this will answer some of your questions, please feel free to speak to Laura Tully (**[**LHMASON00@HOTMAIL.COM**](mailto:LHMASON00@HOTMAIL.COM)**) or Fiona Ross (**[fiona@businessjunction.co.uk](mailto:fiona@businessjunction.co.uk)**) with anything further. A suggested packing list is also attached for anyone needing suggestions or who is new to camping. Beware, you might just LOVE camping and have to come every year!**