

Our Ref: JSH/KL/Offsite/Sparsholt Schools' Centre

7 November 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians

**Sparsholt Schools' Centre Wed 1, Thurs 2, Tues 7, Wed 8 and Thurs 9 February 2012**

As part of your son/daughter's Year 7 science course, the Science faculty has been able to arrange visits to Sparsholt College, Winchester, to provide the opportunity for the pupils to form better understanding of the relationship between countryside industries and their lives. The visits have been timed to fit in with work on the mammalian life cycle covered in the "Who am I" module and will afford pupils the opportunity to see several examples of domestic animals and their offspring. You may wish to visit the website for the college at: [www.sparsholtschoolscentre.org.uk](http://www.sparsholtschoolscentre.org.uk)

The students will be in their set Science groups and will attend on one of the above dates. Each day about 44 students will attend with their Science teacher and 2/3 additional members of staff. The group leaders will be Mrs Matthews, Mr Brown, Mr Smith, Miss Rodger and Mr Mount.

It is expected that all pupils will attend this trip as the learning experience will be built on back at school.

**Educational purpose of the activity:** Live working farm experience/Enrichment

**Dress:** Warm clothing and outdoor coats, wellington boots/ and a change of shoes

**Transport:** Coach

**Time and place of Departure:** Crofton School - 0830

**Time and place of Return:** Crofton School - 1630

**Cost:** £16.00

(Please note that this is a voluntary contribution but that the trip will not go ahead if insufficient contributions are received. If paying for the trip is a problem, please contact the school.)

**Outline itinerary/details of activity:** There is a chance that students will see the live birth of lambs, they will be able to measure and analyse the growth of livestock e.g. piglets. They will look at milk production with the possibility of milking a cow and how it affects the calves. The life cycle and place in the food chain of cows, sheep and pigs. They will be able to develop a greater understanding of intensive farming and animal husbandry. They will also take part in a “low waste lunch challenge” and develop a greater understanding of what happens to our rubbish.

**Any additional details/requirements:** Students will need to bring with them a packed lunch and drinks. Please ensure your child has either wellington boots or a pair of good sturdy shoes or trainers for walking around the farm in. They will also need their normal shoes to change from and back into.

If your son/daughter’s involvement in this activity affects deadlines in relation to the submission of work, they should inform the member/s of staff concerned.

**Contact point only to be used in an emergency:** Please note that unless otherwise stated, the initial emergency contact point will be the school.

Yours faithfully

Mr Smith  
Faculty Leader for Science