Dear Families,

Welcome to Ross Park Zoo! We're excited to have your child join us for an unforgettable field trip. To ensure everyone has a fantastic experience, here are some helpful tips for preparing your child for the day:

- **Protective Clothing and Gear**: Your child will be outside the entire time they are on site. Please ensure your child wears protective clothing and gear, including a wide-brimmed hat to shield them from the sun and safe sunglasses with UV protection.
- **Sunscreen**: Apply broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher to all exposed areas of your child's skin. Reapply every two hours and pay special attention to the face, nose, ears, feet, and hands.
- **Bug Protection**: Due to the outdoor nature of the trip, we recommend applying bug spray to protect against mosquitoes and other insects.
- **Dressing for the Weather**: Dress your child appropriately for the weather, as our field trip will proceed rain or shine. Comfortable layers and closed-toe shoes are recommended.
- **Packing Food**: Pack a nutritious snack or lunch for your child that doesn't require refrigeration or heating. Consider items like sandwiches, fruits, vegetables, and snacks that can withstand room temperature conditions.
- **Accessibility Considerations**: While we strive to make the zoo accessible to all visitors, some areas may have steep pathways and uneven terrain. Please ensure your child wears sturdy footwear and comfortable clothing.
- **Chaperone Responsibility**: This is a self-guided tour, and there won't be zoo staff present during the trip. Please remind your child to listen to their school chaperones and follow zoo rules for a safe and enjoyable experience.
- **Additional Tips**: Encourage your child to bring a small backpack with essentials like water, snacks, and any necessary medications.

We can't wait to see your little explorer at Ross Park Zoo!

Warm regards,

Ross Park Zoo Visitor Experience Team