

# Pittsford Central Schools

## Parent Notification of a Field Trip Involving Live Animals

Your child will be participating in a field trip with his/her class on     (date)     in which s/he will be in contact with live animals. Due to safety concerns regarding the possibility of contracting salmonella or other infectious diseases from certain animals, Pittsford Central Schools has developed the guidelines below for the handling of animals on field trips. Your child's classroom teacher will provide instructions to his/her class on the appropriate handling of the animals and the required hand washing procedures.

Because of the increased susceptibility to diseases, we recommend that immunocompromised children (e.g. children with cancer, HIV, organ transplants, or other diseases that suppress the immune system, or on immunosuppressive drugs, like steroids or those used in chemotherapy) do **not** handle any animals on field trips.

**If your child is immunocompromised, has an animal allergy or other issue related to animals, please contact the classroom teacher or school nurse.**

### Pittsford Central Schools: Guidelines For The Handling Of Animals On Field Trips

Because of the high risk of salmonellosis from reptiles, baby chicks and ducks, and zoonotic diseases from psittacine birds, i.e. parrots, parakeets, budgies, and cockatiels. We do not recommend the handling of these animals on field trips.

All other animals may be handled by students as long as appropriate hand washing procedures are followed. Hands should be washed periodically during the trip, before the eating or handling of food, and at the end of the visit. If soap and running water is not available, an antibacterial cleaner, Purell or Vionex, should be used.

Students will be instructed on the appropriate procedures and guidelines for handling of animals on field trips prior the trip by their classroom teacher