



Dear TMFMS Parents and Students,

As we prepare for our 8th-grade trip to Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure on **May 15, 2026**, the following information will be reviewed by all participants. Please review the information as a family as well.

Although we have the best students in Pinellas County, please help students understand that their overall conduct will be on display while on the bus and at the theme parks. During this trip, the Code of Conduct is in effect, and any violation will lead to suspensions from other end-of-year events.

Students MUST attend school on May 15, 2026, as it is a regular school day.

Event: Universal Orlando's Gradventure 2026

Where: Islands of Adventure and Universal Studios Theme Parks

When: May 15, 2026

Itinerary:

1:30 p.m. Students will report to the cafeteria for check-in.

2:00 p.m. Buses depart from TMFMS to Universal.

11:30 p.m. Students will meet chaperones – location to be determined.

12:00 a.m. Depart Universal Studios

Students will text/call when the buses depart from Universal and once again when we are on the Howard Franklin Bridge. Parents should be in the school parking lot by 2 am to ensure timely pickup

General Information:

Beginning at 7:00 p.m., both Universal parks will close to the general public and will be open exclusively to 8th-grade Gradventure students and chaperones. Universal employees will escort all remaining daytime guests out of the parks at that time.

Once Gradventure begins, park entrances and exits will be secured. Students will have access to both parks through a designated walkway connecting the two areas. Universal Studios will also provide additional security throughout the event.

Please note that, per Universal Studios policy, students and chaperones will not be permitted to exit the park during the event (including access to CityWalk). All participants must remain inside the park until Gradventure concludes.

Additionally, students will not be permitted to leave early and must depart on the school-provided buses upon returning. Student pickup will take place at TMFMS only.

Student Screening:

All students will undergo scanning with a wand to detect any prohibited items for both the bus and Universal Studios. Discovery of any unauthorized or inappropriate items, such as vapes, will result in immediate loss of the trip, with no refund being issued.

Bus Rules:

Appropriate bus conduct expectations are in effect for this trip. All students have been assigned a bus number. Make sure to remember this on the day of the trip. Because chaperones have been preselected, there will be NO switching of buses.

Only permitted items will be allowed into the park. All other items can be left on the bus, which will remain locked and in the parking lot for the duration of the event.

Chaperones:

Each chaperone will have a list of cell phone numbers for students in their group.

Please be ready to provide the most accurate cell phone number on the day of the trip. Your chaperone will provide you with their phone number in case of emergency.

Electronic Devices:

Students may bring their cell phones on the trip. This will be an avenue of communication between the students and chaperones. If your student does not have a cell phone, they must provide a cell phone number of a friend they are walking around with. We also advise students to bring a charger cord with a block or portable charger.

Please remember that the chaperones, the bus company, theme parks, and TMFMS are **NOT** responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged electronic equipment.

Meal Voucher:

A complimentary meal voucher is included with every admission at participating dining locations. Gradventure Meal Vouchers are like cash; do not lose them! Please think about eating as soon as you get there, as the lines will be very long as the night progresses. Meal vouchers **MUST** be redeemed by 11 p.m. the night of the event.

You may bring extra money for food, drinks, and souvenirs. Debit cards and digital forms of payment are preferred, but cash is accepted.

Student Dress Code:

Students **MUST** wear the 8th-grade shirt provided for the entire day of the trip. Shirts are **NOT** to be modified in any way (i.e., cut, dyed, ripped). Please refer to the attached Universal dress code when planning your attire. Students are **ONLY** allowed to bring drawstring backpacks and purses under the size of 8.5" x 5.5" in the parks.

We are very excited about this fun-filled trip. It is sure to be tons of fun and will have memories that will last a lifetime. We are proud of our students and look forward to this "Gradventure 2026" trip!!