

LETTER TO TEACHERS & FAMILIES

February 2026

Dear Families,

Thank you for sharing an outdoor adventure with us! It's our joy and honor to work with young people, and we work hard to make each trip the type of experience we would send our own children on. Our expeditions are carefully planned to be not only safe, fun, and challenging, but also to be an experience that enriches us: Heart, Head, and Hands.

Safety is our top priority. With over 30 years of combined experience, we've safely guided hundreds of clients on remote wilderness expeditions all over North America: from paddling the canyons of the Southwest, to trekking in Alaska's Arctic. Please see the Safety Page on our website for details about our approach to risk management.

Fun is our next priority. What's plain fun about an expedition? Try paddling down a river, campcraft and cookery, sleeping under the stars, outdoor games, learning about plants and animals, forming memories with friends, and being outside! With safety and fun accounted for, we can focus on providing meaningful challenges.

Meaningful Challenges are the raw material out of which lifelong skills, confidence, and enriching memories are built. Some of our challenges are pre-planned, such as spoon-carving. It can be hard to carve a spoon. There's a risk of injury, so we need to maintain a high level of focus. But there is a unique satisfaction to eating with a spoon you made.

There are also unplanned challenges that wilderness expeditions intrinsically offer. For example, there may be times when it has rained for days, and teeth are chattering as sodden boats are pulled up on the gravel bar. Students' fingers may be numb with cold as they work together to gather wood for a fire. But soon enough, flames will leap up and hot chocolate will be passed around. Smiles and laughter will grow around the fire, and we will have been enriched by a fruit of wilderness expeditions.

We'll see you on expedition!

Warmly,

Lily $\frac{1}{3}$ *Tom*

