

26 February 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Iceland Geography Trip 2017: Tuesday 18 July - Saturday 22 July 2017

We have had a considerable amount of interest in the Iceland Trip and we are now in a position to take deposits. This will be an exciting opportunity for all students studying Geography and will not only completely enhance their study of hazards, but also provide an opportunity to experience Iceland's amazing scenery and volcanic activity. We will be travelling with WST travel company, from Heathrow airport with scheduled flights. The trip will be for four nights and five days - from Tuesday 18 July to Saturday 22 July 2017. We will be staying, full-board, at the Hotel Ork, a three star hotel approximately 30 minutes from Reykjavik, with its own geothermal swimming pool. The trip itinerary is detailed below:

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Day 1	Flight to Keflavik airport, near Reykjavik.	Meet your guide and coach before visiting the Blue Lagoon. After your swim, transfer to the hotel for check in.	Evening meal and free time for local orientation.
Day 2	A full day, guided coach excursion exploring the spectacular sites of the 'Golden Circle', including a geothermal power plant and geysers.		Evening meal at your hotel.
Day 3	A full day, guided coach excursion exploring the wonders of the Reykjanes Peninsular. This will include a trip to the 'bridge across the continents' and a visit to a glacier.		Evening meal at your hotel, before swimming at the hotel's geothermal pool.
Day 4	A full day, guided coach excursion to the 'South Shore' to witness its many incredible geographical features. A trip to the Eyjaffajalljokul Volcano and its visitor centre.		Evening meal at your hotel. Ice-skating in Reykjavik.
Day 5	A guided exploration of Reykjavik before transferring to the airport for your return flight home.		

A little about WST - the Educational Travel Company we are choosing to travel with:

With more than 300 years combined experience in the school travel industry, the team at WST really do understand what makes an exceptional educational visit. They work closely with me during the whole tour planning process to ensure every detail is covered and our learning objectives can be realised. WST also realise that pupils want to have fun on tour, so advise on the best "fun" activities to complement our tour plans.

Many of the team at WST are parents themselves and they fully understand, as a parent, the need to feel that your money is not only secure but also invested into an experience your child will treasure for many years. You will be reassured by the fact that WST is fully ABTA and ATOL bonded and is a member of the School Travel Forum which regulates safety and service standards, and has also been awarded the Learning Outside the Classroom quality badge. Please do go and visit WST's website for further information: www.wsttravel.com

The total cost of the trip is approximately £890. Unfortunately, we will be unable to confirm the final cost until we have obtained quotes for the coach travel, but we feel the above cost is realistic.

There are 40 places available and these will be allocated on a 'first-come first served' basis. We are anticipating a lot of demand so deposits should be paid promptly. We are asking for a non-refundable deposit payment of £50.00 to be paid by Monday 7 March 2016.

Payment Plan

- First non-refundable deposit of £50.00 must be paid by Monday 7 March 2016
- Second non-refundable deposit of £120.00 must be paid by Thursday 28 April 2016
- 3rd payment of £200.00 to be paid by Thursday 30 June 2016
- 4th payment of £200.00 to be paid by Thursday 6 October 2016
- 5th payment of £150.00 to be paid by Thursday 24 November 2016
- 6th payment of £100.00 to be paid by Thursday 2 March 2017
- Final payment of £70.00 must be paid by Thursday 20 April 2017

Once the final payment has been made to the tour company (3 May 2017), no refunds can be given.

Current Y9 students: This trip is only available to students who are opting to study Geography at GCSE. The trip will clash with Work Experience Week so, if you wish your child to take part in work experience, you will need to arrange an alternative time for this - for example during the summer holidays.

Current Y10 students: This trip is only available to students who are currently studying GCSE Geography.

Current Y11 students: Students must be attending Clyst Vale Sixth Form and they should also be intending to study Geography A level.

If you would like your child to take part, please make the first payment by **Monday 7 March 2016**, as detailed below. There will be a parents' Information Evening later in the year to give you all the information you need about the trip.

Payment can be made online through the Schoolcomms online payment system – www.schoolgateway.com - this can be accessed via the Clyst Vale website at <http://www.clystvale.org/parents/online-payment>

Medical details and contact information will be collected nearer the departure date.

If you have any difficulties with regards to making this payment, please contact the Finance Department who will endeavour to help.

Yours faithfully

Tania Grigg
Head of Humanities