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Letter No: 090/2023

11th December 2023

Dear Families,

Headteacher: Alan Gray, M.Sc., F.R.S.A.
Deputy Headteacher: Caroline Creaby, BA, M.Ed., Ed.D. (MAT)
Senior Deputy Headteacher: Mark Nicholls, BA (Hons)
Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mark Allday, BSc (Hons)
Acting Deputy Headteacher: Kate Mouncey, BSc (Hons), M.Ed.

Music tour to Rotterdam 29th June - 2nd July 2024

I am delighted to announce that the Music Faculty will be running a concert tour to Rotterdam in the Netherlands in the summer of 2024. This will involve students from the Jazz Band and Show Choir. The tour has been arranged by a specialist music tour company. They will arrange and publicise our concerts and provide a tour representative that will support the setting up of our three concerts.

The cost of the trip includes travel (by coach and ferry or the Euro Tunnel depending on availability) and three nights' accommodation. The cost is £575 which includes full-board accommodation and all travel. This is spread over three payments: a non-refundable deposit of £150, a first instalment of £200 on 31st January 2024 and a final payment of £225 on 25th March 2024.

If your child would like to be involved in this exciting project, please make your deposit payment of £150 via Parent-Pay by **15th December 2023.**

We only have 65 places available so if the number of students applying exceeds the trip's capacity, priority will be given to students in Years 11 and above and names then drawn at random to allocate places. If your child is not successful in gaining a place then the deposit will be refunded. If there are students on a waiting list we will review this if a member of an ensemble has not been regularly attending rehearsals.

The students will be staying centrally in the lovely city of Rotterdam and will be performing at a number of venues. Once we have confirmed the students on the trip, the tour company will send out the exact schedule and the concert venues.

Please note that by making your deposit payment you are undertaking to make full payment by the given deadlines. Please also note that our tour operator, Club Europe Group Travel, does not differ from other tour companies with regard to cancellations and cancellation fees will apply. Therefore, should you decide to remove your child from the trip, all payments we have made to the tour operator will not be refunded unless we are able to fill the place with another student. It is imperative that payment deadlines for this trip are strictly adhered to so that we can make the necessary payments to the tour operator and ensure that adequate numbers are secured. If payments are not received by the instalment dates, we would have no choice but to remove your child from the trip. Once all arrangements have been finalised with our tour operator we will hold an information evening for students and parents/carers to provide all the relevant information for this trip prior to our departure.

















If your child is not travelling on a British passport it will be the responsibility of parents/carers to apply for visas and ensure all travel documents are present at the time of travel.

Participation in this trip is subject to good conduct in school prior to the trip taking place. If any student's behaviour, attendance or attitude is in question and they are removed from the trip due to their conduct, any monies paid to date will not be refunded.

The school will follow all advice given by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Department for Education and our tour operators when it comes to overseas travel for school trips. The tour operators we use provide both ABTA and ATOL protection as part of our tour packages. In the event that the FCO advises "against all travel" to an area or region, then these policies provide protection to prevent any loss in case of necessary cancellation. The school holds travel insurance through the Department for Education Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) which provides cover in case of travel disruption, medical issues and other emergencies. This insurance does not cover any personal items including money, phones, gadgets and clothing in case of loss, damage or theft. Should you decide to remove your child from any trip where travel is still advised then this will not be covered by insurance, ABTA or ATOL.

Yours sincerely,

Amy Stothard
Director of Learning: Music