



5 February 2019

tyn/pmt/initialskiltr

Dear Parents

Yr 7 to Yr 11 – Ski 2019/2020 to Serre Chevalier, France – Friday 27 December 2019 to Saturday 4 January 2020.

I am organising a trip to Serre Chevalier for current Yr 7 to Yr 11 students and your son/daughter is invited to participate. **Please note these dates are in the Christmas holiday.** Teachers provisionally accompanying the students on the trip are Mr Nicholls, Mr Vosper, Mrs Davenport, Miss Johnson, Mrs Dillon and Mrs Dickinson and seven additional members of staff who are still to be confirmed.

I should emphasise at the outset that skiing is an extremely demanding physical activity involving up to 7 hours of work per day. I believe that parents and students should be aware of its demanding nature at an early stage and it is important that it should not be considered as a holiday.

The trip leaves from St John's at approximately 16:30hrs on Friday 27 December 2019 and will return to St John's on Saturday 4 January 2020 at approximately midday. Travel to Serre Chevalier will be by coach. Further details regarding clothing, equipment, food, etc. will be provided later in the year.

The cost of the trip will be £944.00 and will include the following:

- Return travel by coach from St John's.
- Full board at the resort.
- Hire of skis, boots, ski poles and helmets.
- 12 x 2 hour ski lessons with the French Ski School.
- Comprehensive insurance cover. **Please note you will be asked to reimburse St John's for any insurance excess paid on your behalf at the time of treatment in resort. Claims for lost/stolen/damaged personal effects will be paid less any relevant excess.**
- Lift pass.
- A passport photograph and a collective passport.
- Snow guarantee insurance.
- No surcharge guarantee insurance (please note that this guarantee covers fuel and currency increases, but neither St John's nor the travel company, Ski Bound Ltd, can guarantee against increases in the cost of the ski course as a result of French government action).
- Ski breakage/loss insurance.
- Resort representative service.

We have just returned from this year's fantastic trip and to give you an idea of the trip, you might like to visit the blog trip at www.sjski2019.blogspot.co.uk.

In order that the trip may take place and to reserve the chosen resort and hotel, it is necessary to ask for a deposit of £100.00, this should be paid by **1500hrs on Friday 22 February 2019** to financially consolidate the booking. If a place is confirmed, further payments will be required, as below





- £200.00 by Friday 26 April 2019.
Friday 31 May 2019.
Friday 6 September 2019.
- £244.00 by Friday 1 November 2019.

In case of financial hardship, support is available from the Opportunity Fund and a letter to the Principal will be dealt with confidentially and sympathetically. **Do not wait to hear about funding before sending in permission as places are limited and the trip is very popular, by waiting you may miss out on gaining a place.** An optional additional payment of approximately £60.00 'pocket money' **mostly in Euros** cash (not included in the trip cost) can be paid nearer the departure date, should you wish to take advantage of the trip's 'bank' facility.

Payment should be made online through ParentPay, you will not need to return the paper permission slip if you pay online. Please indicate in the notes section on the payment screen your son's/daughter's PLACE of birth. Payment can still be made by cheque with the completed permission slip at the end of this letter returning it via the financial mailbox in the Atrium by the exit to the tennis courts. Please indicate on the envelope the name of the trip and mark it for the attention of Mrs Marshall-Thomas. For security purposes we request that you do not make payments in cash, the Academy cannot be held responsible for the non-receipt of cash payments from students. After the initial deposit you will be able to pay what you like, when you like to meet the payment deadlines. *If you have mislaid your log in details please contact Mrs Woodburn on 01672 519567 or by emailing swoodburn@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk*

Payments are generally non-returnable unless the trip is cancelled by the school. Should the student be withdrawn by parental request we will make every effort to fill places from a reserve list, however costs incurred by the school will have to be covered in full whether the place is filled or not. All such withdrawals should be discussed, in the first instance, with Mrs Pauline Marshall-Thomas. Please note there will be a 5% Admin charge made for any parental cancellation, unless the cancellation is due to a substantiated medical reason.

Selection for the trip will be made according to the following criteria:

- Behaviour and achievement in school with reference to records held.
- Approach to physical activity – liaison with the PE Department.
- Liaison with the Pastoral care team.
- Priority to students who have applied previously but were unsuccessful.
- Priority to students that have not previously been on the trip.

Places will not be awarded on a first come first served basis. If after meeting all the above criteria the year groups are still oversubscribed, names will be drawn from a hat. **Late applications received after this date will be added to the reserve list, unless the year groups are undersubscribed.** Please be aware that deposit cheques will not be banked until places have been allocated.

The organisation of all trips includes a comprehensive risk assessment. This trip involves demanding activity in a mountainous environment. The Principal and Trip Organiser may choose to exclude from the trip any students whose behaviour or schoolwork is not satisfactory.

For those that have gained a place on the trip there will be an information meeting for parents and students on Monday 18 March 2019 at 18:00hrs in the Theatre at St John's, to give you full details of the trip.



Yours faithfully

T. Y. Nicholls

**Mr T Y Nicholls
Party Leader
Assistant Vice Principal**

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Please return slip and payment to the Financial Mailbox in the Atrium by the exit to the tennis courts. These should be in an envelope marked for the attention of Mrs Marshall-Thomas and your child's name, tutor group, trip/event name, trip date and trip organiser must also be detailed on it. Cheques should be made payable to 'St John's Marlborough'.

**Ski 2019/20 to Serre Chevalier, France – Friday 27 December 2019 to Saturday 4 January 2020.
Trip Organiser – Mr Nicholls**

Student: Yr Tutor Group:

1. I give permission for my son/daughter to be included in the above-proposed trip.
2. I enclose a voluntary contribution of £100.00 and confirm I will be making the full contribution by the final payment deadline.
3. I understand that there may be no refund due, should my child be withdrawn from the trip by St John's.
4. I accept that I will be liable for all costs incurred by St John's should I withdraw my child from the trip, should it not be possible to replace them with another student. I will also be responsible for any costs incurred in the transfer of places to a replacement should this occur.

I. My son/daughter was born in **(TOWN & COUNTRY)**

Signed: Date:
(Parent)

IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO RETURN THE PAPER PERMISSION SLIP IF YOU PAY ONLINE.

