Diocese of St. Albans

St. Mary's
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

28 February 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

St Mary's High School Ski Trip, 15th – 23rd February 2019: St Michael, Langau, Austria

Following the phenomenal success of this year's ski trip to Austria, I am pleased to inform you of next year's trip. This is open to all students currently in Years 7 to 12.

I have decided next year to return once again to St Michael as the resort and Hotel Zum Weissenstein offer a fantastic ski area; excellent snow record; very good ski school; door step skiing; a very high standard of accommodation; great food and a very warm welcome from Thomas and his family. Images from this year's trip to St Michael can be found on the School Flickr account www.flickr.com/photos/smhssch/albums

Demand for bed spaces next year is exceptional as schools across Europe have the same half term week. This demand has, unfortunately, seen all operators slightly increase their prices for the 2019 season, however I have been able to ensure that the increase in price is only marginal, and can confirm that the price will be £995* (and a cash 15 Euro supplement payable on the day of departure).

**Please note the following*

- *Any student who is 18 years or over at the time of travel may be required to pay an additional supplement of approximately £50 (TBC). This is to cover the additional costs in resort of an adult lift pass*

This is an all-inclusive price, including:

- All return travel by Channel Tunnel and executive coach
- Full board and accommodation
- 6 day ski pass and 4 hours of daily ski tuition (24 hours in total)
- An additional ski instructor (giving improved instructor to student ratios to significantly enhance the skiing experience and progression)
- All ski, snowboard and boot hire
- Full evening entertainments package including ice hockey match, bowling, swimming, disco and ski show
- Fully comprehensive insurance and ABTA, ATOL, and Schools Travel Forum bonding

Extras to budget for:

- Ski wear
- Ski gloves, sunglasses and goggles

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'A good school' Ofsted January 2015
'An outstanding church school' SIAMS May 2015

St Mary's CE Academy, Cheshunt, is a limited company registered in England and Wales
Company No. 07999861 Registered Office: As above

Important Note: Once you have received confirmation of your child's place on the trip, any student who drops out of the trip, or who falls behind on the payment schedule, or who is withdrawn by the school, will be liable for any costs incurred.

I will once again be offering a **snowboard option,** however this is dependent on a minimum group size of eight snowboarders. Any student who selects this package will be unable to switch to the ski package once their place on the trip has been confirmed. Students will also be committed to snowboarding for the full week once in resort and will be unable to switch at any point to skiing. Any student who is interested in this package is asked to please indicate on the reply slip below. Should there be insufficient numbers to allow this option to run, students may switch to the ski package or withdraw from the trip and any deposits received will be returned. Please note that should this option not run, a deadline will be communicated in the confirmation letter for students who have opted to snowboard to either switch to skiing or withdraw.

Once a place has been confirmed, payments can be broken down into more manageable amounts through a monthly payment schedule (8 further payments of £105 per month). However, please be aware that all balances will need to be paid in full by early November 2018.

Should you wish your son/daughter to take advantage of this trip please return the attached reply slip and make **an initial non-refundable deposit of £155** (via the School Parent Pay facility). This will be returned only in the event of there being insufficient interest and the trip being cancelled or your child withdrawing from the trip, prior to the stated deadline, due to the number of students opting for the snow board package falling below the minimum requirement of eight. Please ensure that any payments are received by noon on **Friday 16th March** and that all replies are in a sealed envelope clearly labelled with your **child's name**, **form** and '**Ski Austria 2019'**.

Please note that any student wishing to accompany this trip will need to be in possession of a valid passport and EHIC card, and will be responsible for the arrangement of visas or other supporting travel documentation.

I would like to remind parents / carers that participation on this trip will be dependent on exemplary levels of attendance, behaviour and progress within school. Should these be unsatisfactory, then the school reserves the right to withdraw any student from the trip at any point prior to our departure. Any student who drops out of the trip, or who falls behind on the payment schedule, or who is withdrawn by the School, will be liable for all costs incurred.

Additional Note: Students in Years 11 and 12 who will be sitting public examinations in Summer 2019 will also be expected to be on track to achieve their expected grades and up to date on all coursework requirements. They also need to be aware that the ski trip may clash with half term revision sessions. Should any student not be making at least expected progress and be on track to achieve their target grades, the School will not compromise their chances of examination success and reserves the right to withdraw them from the trip to allow them to focus on their studies.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this trip further.

Yours faithfully

S Warner

Mr S Warner – Ski Party Leader

St Mary's CE High School

Ski Austria 2019 - Parent / Carer Reply Slip

Name of Student (Please PRINT as appears on passport):

_____

Form: _____ Age at date of travel: _____

Please select Ski or Snowboard option below:

( ) **Ski** ( ) **Snowboard**

I confirm that I / we have made an initial non-refundable deposit of £155 via Parent Pay.

Date of payment: _____

I understand that participation on this trip is dependent on my son / daughter's levels of attendance, behaviour and progress within school. Should these be unsatisfactory, then I understand that the school reserves the right to withdraw my son / daughter from the trip at any point prior to departure. I understand that if my son / daughter drops out of the trip, or is withdrawn by the school, or I fall behind on the agreed payment schedule, that I will be liable for all costs incurred as stated in the original information letter.

I understand that students in Years 11 and 12 who will be sitting public examinations in Summer 2019 will also be expected to be on track to achieve their expected grades and up to date on all coursework requirements. I am aware that the ski trip may clash with half term revision sessions and that should my son / daughter not be making at least expected progress and be on track to achieve their target grades, the School will not compromise their chances of examination success and reserves the right to withdraw them from the trip to allow them to focus on their studies.

I understand that the final decision for my son / daughter's participation on this trip lies with the school.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____

Contact email will be used for trip updates and information (all email addresses will be treated in the strictest confidence):

_____

Please return this form once an initial **Parent Pay** deposit has been made to the Main Reception, in a sealed envelope clearly labelled with your child's name, form and 'Ski Austria 2019'.