



RED HOUSE SCHOOL

a foundation for life

9 February 2017

Dear Parents

Ski Trip 2017 - Les Deux Alpes, France

Following the success of last year's ski trip, the 2017 trip will return to Les Deux Alpes. Les Deux Alpes was voted European Resort of the Year at the World Snow Awards 2015. Snowsure glacier skiing has made Les Deux Alpes a well-established favourite amongst British skiers, and it more than lived up to its reputation last year.

Les Deux Alpes is a superb resort for all standards of skier. It has excellent beginner slopes near the resort and on the glacier, making it a great place to learn whilst enjoying the stunning mountain views. Intermediate skiers have plenty of variety, while expert skiers can explore over 220km of piste in this 'upside down' ski area. The resort is known as upside down largely because some of the easiest runs and beginner slopes are found at the top of the 3600m mountain, with some of the steepest and toughest slopes run into the resort, making Les Deux Alpes unique (although there are easy runs back down to the village too!). Last season a brand new blue 10km slope opened at Les Deux Alpes which starts at the glacier and runs all the way down to the bottom of the resort so skiers of all abilities are able to ski back to the village.

The resort has 12 black and 20 red advanced ski slopes as well as 47 blue and 17 green beginner slopes. For the more experienced skiers, there are also three snowparks. In addition to the huge variety of slopes on offer, Les Deux Alpes has an excellent snow record and varied evening entertainment is within easy walking distance of the hotel base.

We shall be staying at the hotel Le Provencal which has a prime location at the base of the Vallee Blanche slopes, and right next door to the lift station of the Super Venosc. Other lifts are less than 5 minutes' walk away. The hotel has a warm, friendly atmosphere and is situated in the centre of the villages commercial and culinary heart. The majority of rooms are four bedded, with some six bedrooms. All rooms are en suite. Meals include a buffet breakfast and a three course evening meal. The hotel's prime location, adjacent to the slopes, will allow us to enjoy hot lunches.

The après ski entertainment may include swimming, bowling, ice-skating, as well as quizzes, bingo and karaoke. These are group activities in which all pupils participate and the money for these activities is normally taken from pocket money during the course of the holiday.

Pupils may be given permission, during our stay at Les Deux Alpes, to go shopping in small groups without the direct supervision of a member of staff. Staff will be on duty in the hotel at all times, and pupils will be required to sign in and out if they do go shopping in those small groups.

Provisionally, the trip will depart on the **15 December 2017** and return on the **23 December 2017**. More accurate timings will be available closer to departure, but it isn't anticipated that there will be a material change.

Due to poor exchange rates, high fuel costs and an element of political uncertainty, the cost of the ski trip has risen since last year. The cost this year will be **£995** and will include:

- Return executive coach travel from school to UK airport
- Return flights from a Northern airport (provisionally Leeds Bradford)

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- Overseas coach transfers
- 7 nights full board accommodation including hot lunches
- 6 days lift pass
- 6 days hire of skis, boots, poles and helmets
- 30 hours of ski tuition – 5 hours per day
- Snow guarantee insurance
- Fully comprehensive winter sports travel insurance
- Dedicated resort representative
- 24 hour emergency contact number & medical assistance service

Those pupils that have not skied before will be given the opportunity to visit a local ski slope during the period leading up to the holiday. This will be at Castleford indoor slopes during the October half term holiday. The viability of this option will be assessed once pupil numbers and skiing ability have been confirmed.

If you would like your son/daughter to go on this trip please complete the slip below and pay a non-returnable deposit of £200. Deposits need to be paid to the ski company on the **24 February**. Therefore, reply slips and deposits must be received by us by **Tuesday 21 February**. **Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come basis**. The final balance will become due in September. The deposit should be transferred direct to the school bank, using the following information:

- Sort Code – 30-98-13
- Account Number – 01776186
- Bank – Lloyds Bank plc

Please ensure you use an easily identifiable reference code. Please use 'ski trip' and your child's initials. It would also be helpful if you could put the same reference on the reply slip below.

If you have any questions you would like to ask about the holiday do not hesitate to contact me. I am available in school from 8am each morning or alternatively after 4pm each evening.

Please note that monies paid may not be refunded if at a later date if your son/daughter is unable to attend and the School is unable to fully recover the amount paid to the trip organiser.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Wilkinson

Ski Trip 2017 Les Deux Alpes, France

I wish my daughter/son _____ to be a member of the skiing party

Signed _____ (parent/guardian)*

I have paid £200 by bank transfer using the code _____

(your deposit will, of course, be returned to you if your child is not allocated a place)

* To comply with the Children Act, children of divorced or separated parents must have the written consent of all those with parental responsibility.