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27 April 2018

Dear Parents

Holland Sports Tour 2019

I am delighted to inform you that we will be participating a sports tour to Holland in Easter 2019. The tour will be organised through Edwin Doran Sports Tours which is one of the best school travel companies available which has significant experience of the area and the standard of the local teams. Edwin Doran will also provide expert coaches to lead training sessions throughout the tour. The tour will depart on 8 April and will return on 12 April, giving pupils the opportunity to play several competitive fixtures during the trip.

The final price, which is dependent on the number of pupils that sign for the tour, is estimated at £495 and can be paid in installments up to the 9 January 2019.

The price is inclusive of travel costs, all food & drink, entry into the tournaments and three excursion activities. These activities include;

Laser Ouest

Set in the caves; this unique attraction splits groups into red and green teams with the objective of "shooting" as many of your opponents as possible. Within the cave, effects of smoke and music make it difficult to locate your opponents and bonus points can be obtained by reaching the "secret mine" hidden in the area.

Tobogganing

The cable lift takes you 90 metres high to the viewing tower, charming restaurant and pavement café, and of course the Toboggan Run. There are two toboggan runs, which are 325m and 375m long, under the cable-lift. Slide down at high speed down the runs then let the automatic towing system take you back up the hill to the starting point.

Water Park

Mosaqua is a great indoor water park with a lazy river, black hole, wave pool plus much more. This exciting excursion was immensely enjoyed by pupils who attended the tour last year. The local park also has an outdoor 25m swimming pool which is great for team games and races.

We will be playing two hockey fixtures and one rugby fixture against local opposition with the boys. The girls will enter two/three netball teams into the Edwin Doran "masterclass" tournament where pupils will receive expert coaching followed by a tournament against other schools on the last day. We will also spend one day receiving hockey coaching from experts and will play one fixture of hockey against a local Dutch team with the girls.

If you would like your child to participate in the visit a deposit of £50 is required before the 25 May. Once the deposits are paid and numbers confirmed, the remaining cost for the visit will be confirmed. This can be paid in installments by 1 November and 9 January. Payments need to be paid by BACS transfer to the school bank, using the following information:

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o Sort Code – 30-98- 13
o Account Number – 01776186
o Bank – Lloyds Bank plc
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Please ensure that you use an easily identifiable reference code, eg Holland Tour and your child's name.

Please note that money may not be refunded if at a later date your son/daughter is unable to attend as the School is unable to fully recover the amount paid to the trip organiser. (If your child is not allocated a place, your deposit will, of course, be returned to you.)

Tour Itinerary

Monday 8 April

Meet the coach and driver who will be with us for the duration of the tour. Transfer to Dover/Folkstone for the Channel crossing to Calais, from where we will drive to Holland and the Southern town Valkenburg to check into the hotel for four nights on a full board basis. Valkenburg is a small town, full of shops and restaurants.

Tuesday 9 April

The rugby and netball squads will transfer in the morning to Maastricht for their first coaching session with UK professional coaches. We will return for a hot lunch and some free time to explore the town or perhaps take part in a local excursion (supplements will apply), transferring later in the day to play our first matches:

Match 1: Local rugby team vs. Red House School

Following the fixtures, we will return to our accommodation for the evening.

Wednesday 10 April

Following breakfast served in our hotel, we will enjoy our second full sports day, with coaching from UK professional coaches in the morning. The girls will travel with the boys to the hockey pitches for their coaching session. Following the coaching sessions, we will enjoy some free time before making our way to our second fixtures:

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Match 2: Local hockey team vs. Red House School
Match 3: Local Hockey sides vs. Red House school (girls)
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We will then return to the hotel after our fixtures and will enjoy the evening together.

Thursday 11 April

We will take a packed lunch with us in the morning. The full group will board the coach to take part in a local excursion to the Mosaqua Water Park. We will then transfer straight to the Masterclass Tournament venues for the afternoon tournaments. The netball team will play against up to 11 schools in a full day of competition while the boys play their final fixture against a local Dutch team.

Tournament: Hockey and Netball Tournaments Match 3: Local hockey team vs. Red House School An awards presentation, including players of the week, will follow the tournament. We will then transfer back to the hotel for a hot evening meal. All of the schools who participated in the Masterclass tournament will then transfer to a local hotel for the Masterclass Disco.

Friday 12 April

We will have an early breakfast before saying goodbye and making our way home. We will travel to the Channel crossing, before making our way back to school.

A full risk assessment will be undertaken by the group leaders. The trip will be subject to the conditions as set out in the Parent Contract, and will be covered by the school's insurance policy. Staff will take a first aid kit with them, and there will be first aid facilities at all of the venues in Holland. Please ensure if your child suffers from asthma or severe allergic reactions their inhaler/medication/epipen is with them, if they do not have them, they will be unable to go on the trip. A parental consent and medical form will be issued shortly before the tour departs to ensure we have up to date medical information on your child.

Pupils will be allowed to bring personal items such as mobile phones or cameras but these will be taken at their own risk and they will be responsible for these items at all times. We endeavour to take photographs on as many school trips as possible, please visit our website, Facebook and twitter pages to view a selection of photographs.

If you would like any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr T Thorogood

Teacher of Physical Education

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