



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

October 2019

Dear Parents and Swing Band Members

Swing Band Tour to the Montreux Festival – July 2020

For our summer music tour next year, we are proposing a Swing Band tour to the Montreux Jazz Festival in July 2020. The wonderful news is that, having sent in our recordings, we have now been invited to play at the Festival. The actual dates of our performance (and therefore the dates of the trip) are still being finalised, however I wanted to make you aware of this exciting opportunity as soon as possible. We will depart St Aidan's by executive coach on either Monday 6th or Tuesday 7th of July and travel to Dover, where we will take the ferry to Calais with P&O Ferries and then continue to our final destination of Nyon in Switzerland.

We will be staying at Nyon Hostel, a beautiful town, situated on the shores of Lake Geneva and will play two separate one hour gigs at the Music in the Park venue at the Montreux Jazz Festival. We also hope to visit Maison Cailler (an amazing chocolate factory), Chateau Chillon (a medieval fortress) and hopefully get the opportunity to attend a festival gig, once the line-up is announced.

The number of students who wish to go determines the cost of a trip this size. However, based on the numbers in the band, we anticipate the cost will be in the region of £575.00-£675.00. This price will include return travel by executive coach, half board accommodation and excursions.

Please note that **all payments for this trip are non-refundable**, as we have to make regular payments to the Tour Operator. I would be grateful therefore if you could discuss this opportunity with your son/daughter prior to paying the deposit to ensure that they are fully committed to the trip.

In order to secure a place on this trip, we require a **non-refundable deposit of £150.00 by 09:00 on Monday 14 October 2019**. The trip should now be available on your ParentPay account and by ticking the box to give consent online, you are agreeing to your son or daughter taking part on the trip and the cost and confirming that the medical details we hold are up to date.

Once we have the final numbers and cost, we will divide the balance of the trip into three payments; these will be due in December 2019, February and April 2020 and we will notify you of the instalments by email.

School trips including residential visits form an important part of the curriculum offered at St Aidan's. When accompanying students on a school trip, staff are acting in *loco parentis* just as they do in school. However, trips away from the normal school environment involve taking into account different routines and environments, which demand that students are able to show an increased level of responsibility and maturity. In order to participate in any trip, the school staff have to be confident that students will be able to cope with the challenges that the trip presents.

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

St. Aidan's Church of England High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8JR

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Once the deadline of Monday 14 October 2019 has passed, we will look at the behaviour, attendance and the wellbeing of each student who has signed up and decide whether they are able to cope with the demands of the trip. The decision to allow the students to participate will be taken between the Trip Leader, the Head of St Aidan's and Senior Staff. If we decide the trip is not suitable for your son or daughter, we will inform you in writing and deposits in this case will be refunded.

Please note you will only be notified if your son/daughter is not accepted onto the trip.

Once a student has been accepted onto a trip if, in the time between gaining a place on the trip and the departure, there are concerns again about the pupil's participation on the trip, **the Head of the St Aidan's reserves the right to withdraw the pupil's place and any payments made may not be refunded.**

If you have any queries about the trip, or if meeting the initial deadline for payment presents a problem, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs Collins, the Trips Administrator on 01423 818527.

Regards

Mrs V Elliott

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