



KING JAMES'S SCHOOL

KNARESBOROUGH

86c/Saalbach2019/EBO/DSY
October 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

CURRENT YEAR 10 SKI TRIP: FEBRUARY 2019 **Gasthof Zur Post Maishofen, Saalbach Hinterglemm, Austria**

We are planning to take an 8-day ski trip to the resort of Saalbach Hinterglemm in Austria from **Friday 22nd February to Saturday 2nd March 2019 (February half term)**. It is essential to book early because demand for these courses is very high.

The company we will use to take care of all travel, accommodation and skiing details is *PGL Travel Ltd* who are specialists in coach travel and have served us well over the last 15+ years. As a company, PGL meet all the requirements laid down by North Yorkshire Education Authority and is a fully bonded member of ABTA.

Saalbach and Hinterglemm are excellent, interlinked resorts that cater for all grades of skiers with 70 lifts and 270km of marked pistes. It also caters particularly well for beginners who, while starting on the nursery slopes, will eventually progress to pistes across the mountains. There will be 6 full days of skiing consisting of 5 hours per day with a qualified instructor. The instruction caters for all levels of skier from beginner to advanced and so no previous experience is necessary.

I have provisionally booked 40 places at the Gasthof Zur Post Maishofen, which is just a 15-minute coach journey away from the main slopes. This gives our group easy access to either Saalbach or Hinterglemm for their ski lessons, and is only a short walk from the centre of the village. The Gasthof Zur Post Maishofen is a traditional, family run hotel located in the centre of the village of Maishofen. All rooms have private facilities, TV and most have balconies. Each room sleeps up to a maximum of 4 students.

We will be travelling by coach on the Friday afternoon and arriving in the resort on the Saturday. The cost of the trip will be **£990** per child. This cost includes: all travel to and from Austria; fully comprehensive travel insurance; hire of skis, ski boots and helmet; 6-day lift pass; ski instruction (5 hours of lessons for 6 days); evening entertainments and full board accommodation.

Your child would also need a certain amount of specialist ski clothing, but we recommend that growing children take the more practical and cheaper solution of hiring major items as a bundle (ski jacket, salopettes, gloves, goggles etc.) from a reputable ski hire shop nearer the time.

Paperless Communication

We wish to make future correspondence via email and do our bit to reduce the planet's carbon footprint and so, if you wish your son/daughter to be considered for the trip please email me to register your interest at johnpenn@king-james.n-yorks.sch.uk

Please include the following in your email:

Subject: Saalbach 2019

Son/daughter's full name

Tutor group

If you are unable to email us or do not wish for your email address to be part of our 'ski group email' and would prefer to write to us, please feel free to do so at the school address.

The deadline for all submissions of interest is **4pm on Friday 20th October 2017**. As there is a limit on places, in the event of the trip being oversubscribed an open draw will take place on **Monday 30th October** at lunchtime to allocate places. From previous experience these ski trips are very popular hence the reason for the public draw. If unsuccessful, your son/daughter will be placed on a reserve list.

We will then email you to let you know if your son/daughter has been successful or not and you will then be required to pay a non-refundable **deposit of £100 by Friday 3rd November 2017** to secure your child's place. Payment for this trip should be made online through ParentPay (www.parentpay.com). Please tick the consent box for this trip.

PGL's payment schedule is as follows:

Type of payment	Amount	Due by date
First deposit	£100	Friday 3 rd November 2017
Second deposit	£100	Friday 5 th January 2018
Second Stage	£295	Friday 6 th April 2018
Final Payment	£495	Friday 23 rd November 2018
Total	£990	

I am aware that the final balance is a large sum of money so feel free to pay in instalments of your choosing via ParentPay throughout the year.

Please do think carefully before making a commitment to this trip. If you do wish to withdraw your son/daughter at a later date there may be a student willing to take the place, but please understand the position if this is not the case. The Tour firm will not refund the first two deposits once paid and the tour firm operates a sliding penalty once the final balance has been paid, depending on time remaining (monies can be reclaimable through the insurance company due to illness or redundancy only). I will do my best on your behalf; however loss of all or part of your deposits can result.

Security Threats

National and international security threats in recent months are foremost in our minds as we plan our ongoing programme of trips and visits. Our partnership with parents as we plan and risk assess our visits is important as we all keep in mind our responsibilities within the framework of a trip. I can assure parents that we work very closely with our travel companies and we also take independent travel advice from North Yorkshire County Council who have specialist advice available in relation to trips.

We have a very robust risk assessment process and we review all trips on an ongoing basis. Security advice at the point where we plan a trip may be different by the time the trip is due to leave. Once a booking is made to go on a trip, travel and insurance companies treat cancellations as 'disinclination to travel'. Any withdrawal or cancellation by a parent, guardian or the school may incur financial losses and we cannot guarantee it would be paid for by our insurance provider except in exceptional circumstances.

It is very important that parents satisfy themselves that they are comfortable with the arrangements of a trip before they commit to it. The school works to the latest travel advice from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. If a serious incident occurs whilst travelling to the destination, the school reserve the right to cancel the trip or end a visit prematurely. We are always happy to discuss trips and visits in more detail if you need further information before making a commitment to a trip.

If you have any queries regarding any of the above, please feel free to contact us via email

Yours faithfully



Mr J Penn
Party Leaders

Miss Bowe