



Dear Parent/Carer

September 2016

## **Snowsports Trip 2017**

At Easter, a group of excited students and staff set off for Valle d'Aosta, Italy. It was once again an 'absolutely amazing' trip! I am, therefore, delighted that your son/daughter has expressed an interest in our Easter 2017 Snowsports Trip. Valle d'Aosta is in an undeniably excellent location and a snowsports paradise.

*With stunning scenery, the valley is surrounded by some of Europe's highest peaks. Mont Blanc sits majestically above Courmayeur and La Thuile. Pila rests on the shoulder of the Gran Paradiso, while the soaring peaks of Monte Rosa and the nearby Matterhorn parade to the north, providing a truly spectacular backdrop. This outstanding alpine resort has a superb snow record, with areas that are perfect for beginners to find their ski legs safely and offer plenty to challenge intermediate and more advanced skiers.*

The group will depart from school on Saturday, 1 April 2017 and will return nine days later on Sunday, 9 April 2017. The cost of the trip will be £950.00 per person to ski. If your child would like to snowboard there is an additional charge of £45.00. This will include all travel costs, full board accommodation, six four hour sessions of ski/snowboard instruction, equipment hire, appropriate insurances and evening entertainment. Students will also receive a free 'hoodie' sweatshirt to wear for group activities. Regardless of ability, tuition will be tailored to suit the needs of every student, to ensure everyone progresses and makes the most of this fantastic opportunity.

Whilst this trip may appear expensive, it actually represents extremely good value in relation to the attention to safety, location, helpfulness of staff/representatives, hotel/food standard and quality of tuition. As important as these factors are, the 'enjoyment factor' is arguably unrivalled. We have, therefore, planned in advance to allow for the cost to be spread, with an initial deposit of £150.00, followed by instalment payments every month. It is essential that the payment plan is strictly adhered to, as this will enable us to comply with the tour company's payment schedule and also book tuition for your child.

All deposits will be returned if the trip is cancelled. No deposits will be paid to the tour company until the tour is confirmed. However, once deposits have been paid they will be non-refundable unless covered by insurance. If you decide to withdraw your son/daughter from the trip and/or default on any payments, once the booking is confirmed, you may not receive a refund of any monies already paid to the tour company. You may also be required to pay any surcharges imposed by the tour company, as a result of your child not participating in the trip, and/or if you default on any payments. All withdrawal notices must be put in writing with a request for confirmation of receipt.

**There are only thirty five places available on a strictly first-come, first-served basis**

In order for your child to participate in this trip, please return the reply slip, together with the relevant documentation, to Ms Pridham in Reception by **Friday, 16 September 2016**. Please make your payment using ParentPay ([www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)), our online payment system, choosing the service 'Snowsports Trip 2017'. Alternatively, if you would like a PayPoint service barcode, please contact Ms Pridham, in Reception.

Head: Mark Mayne

Rose Avenue, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 7UB T: 01494 815211 E: [office@swr.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@swr.bucks.sch.uk) [www.swr.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.swr.bucks.sch.uk)



**Students must obtain a current passport and European Health Insurance Card. Please ensure these documents will be valid for at least one month after our return date. If your child has a non EU passport, please consult the Italian Embassy to verify whether he/she will need a visa to enter Italy.**

Here at Sir William Ramsay School we take students' welfare very seriously. For the safety of all students and staff, the school reserves the right to decline applications from students who may be unable to comply with the school's Code of Conduct. Any student, who gives cause for concern, regarding their behaviour, prior to our departure date, may be withdrawn from the trip. In such cases, the deposit is non-refundable, as are any monies already paid to the tour operator. The insurance does not cover such eventualities. Whilst on the trip all students must follow the school Code of Conduct; any students misbehaving in a way that puts themselves, or others at risk, will be dealt with severely upon our return. In extreme cases, parents may be asked to make their own arrangements to collect their son/daughter from Italy at their own expense.

Prior to departure, there will be a meeting at school for parents and participants. It is anticipated this meeting will take place at the beginning of December 2016, details of which will be confirmed nearer the time. All parents and students must attend this meeting.

All levels of ability will be catered for from all age groups, whether your child is an accomplished skier or complete beginner. This is a fantastic opportunity for your child to experience something new and exciting, to develop interpersonal skills, travel to a completely different environment and most importantly have fun!

At all times, the group will have contact with an Italian speaking tour representative.

As someone with experience of snowsports trips, I know the students will really enjoy both the skiing, snowboarding and evening entertainments on offer.

Should you have any concerns regarding this trip, please do not hesitate to contact me on the usual school telephone number.

Yours faithfully

**Miss G Muttitt**  
**Trip Leader /Teacher of PE**

Reply slip: please return to Ms Pridham in Reception by **Friday, 16 September 2016.**

### **Snowsports Trip 2017**

- I give permission for my son/daughter to take part in the Snowsports Trip 2017 to Valle d'Aosta, Italy.
- My son/daughter would like Snowboard lessons. I understand there is an additional charge of £45.00.
- I understand all snowsports have inherent risks, that falls will happen and that people can get hurt through no fault of their own, or that of anyone else. By agreeing to my child taking part, I am accepting these risks.
- I have paid a non-returnable deposit of £150.00 via ParentPay.
- I require a PayPoint barcode letter.
- I understand that photographs/videos taken on the trip may be shared with other students on the trip and may be used within the school to promote future trips.
- I understand that if my son/daughter is excluded prior to departure, I will lose the deposit and any other monies paid to the tour company.
- I confirm that my son/daughter will conform to the school's Code of Conduct before and during this trip and that I will be accountable should he/she breach these regulations.
- I understand that once deposits have been paid to the tour company they will be non-returnable, unless covered by insurance and if I withdraw my son/daughter from the trip, and/or default on any payments, once the booking is confirmed, I may not receive a refund of any monies already paid to the tour company. I am aware that once the booking has been confirmed, I may be required to pay any surcharges imposed by the tour company, as a result of my child not participating in the trip, and/or if I default on any payments. I understand that all withdrawal notices must be put in writing with a request for confirmation of receipt.
- I enclose a photocopy (**on one A4 sheet please**) of my child's current passport and European Health Insurance Card. (**Please check expiry dates**).
- I enclose a signed and completed Parental Consent Form.
- I enclose a signed and completed Administer Medication Form
- I enclose a signed and completed Code of Conduct.
- I enclose a signed and completed Ski Helmet Hire reply slip.

Student name: ..... Form: .....

Signature: ..... Date: .....  
(Parent/Carer)

**PLEASE PUT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE, CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME, FORM GROUP AND TRIP DETAILS.**