

19th April 2011

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am pleased to inform you that due to a large response to our proposed trip to Iceland scheduled for October 2011, the trip will now go ahead.

We intend to try to keep to the Itinerary outlined below:

Intended Itinerary - 5 DAYS (4 NIGHTS) TO ICELAND BY AIR

- Day 1 — UK to Keflavik by air. Transfer to accommodation.
- Day 2 — Golden Circle Tour.
- Day 3 — South Shore Adventure.
- Day 4 — Bubbling mud pots and the Blue Lagoon.
- Day 5 — Morning at leisure in Reykjavík and transfer to airport for flight to UK.

The dates are scheduled for Friday 21st October to Tuesday 25th October, however this is subject to confirmation once the tour company have received our deposit.

Day 1 Depart from UK

Activities are dependant on the time of the flight, and our arrival in Reykjavik.

Day 2 Golden Circle Tour Full day with guide

Drive eastward with distant views of Mount Hekla and the islands of Heimaey and Surtsey. Stop at the village of Hveragerði, where natural hot springs heat greenhouses full of tropical fruit, vegetables, salads and flowers. Stop at the Kerið to see the 55m deep lake that fills the extinct volcano's crater, and continue to the rainbow misted waterfall at Gullfoss, renowned for its breathtaking beauty. Travel on to Geysir to see Strokkur, the hot geyser that spouts up to 20m every few minutes, and visit the Geysir Multimedia Centre. Around the site are many colourful hot springs, steaming vents, warm streams with psychedelic algae and mineral deposits. Explore the Thingvellir National Park, an ancient open air meeting place of the Vikings and an area of great geological interest where the forces of plate tectonics are clearly visible (The Mid Atlantic Rift).

Day 3 South Shore Adventure Full day with guide.

Meet our guide, and drive south to the wild sandy coastline at Eyrarbakki, with its numerous historical wooden buildings. Continue to Stokkseyri, built on the 8,000 year old jórsá lava flow and through the rich farmlands from where, on a clear day you can see the famous shield volcano of Mount Hekla. Travel around the base of Mount Eyjafjöll past the spectacular waterfalls of Seljalandsfoss and Skógarfoss. Continue to Skógar where the white heights of the glacier of Eyjafjallajökull rise above. Drive on to the glacial outwash plains and basalt columns near Vík. Above the green hills rises Myrdalsjökull glacier, under which lies Katla, one of Iceland's most notorious volcanoes. Return to Reykjavík via Selfoss and Hveragerði.

Day 4 Mudpots, Reykjanes Peninsula & the Blue Lagoon

Drive through the bizarre lava formations of the Reykjanes Peninsula with its many craters, lava caves and impressive fissures. Visit the geothermal fields at Krysuvík where the mountainside steams and boils, and walk through the bubbling mud pools and steaming vents. See the sulphur deposits that were once used in the

production of gunpowder. Continue to Grindavík to view the cliffs, harbour, fishing fleet and take refreshment. Continue to the Blue Lagoon, formed by the runoff from the geothermal power station of Svartsengi. Bathe in the lagoon amid clouds of vapour with moss covered lava formations in the distance. After an invigorating swim we board the coach and return to Reykjavík

Day 5 City of Reykjavík and Swimming Afternoon

Meet our guide, and depart after breakfast for a tour of the city of Reykjavík, home to 70% of the country's population. Visit the old town and see the Bernhöftstófan, a group of rustic old wooden buildings that have altered little since the mid 1800's. See the Tjorn (the pond) in the centre of town around which old Reykjavík grew. Over 40 species of bird frequent the Tjorn area, including the Arctic Tern. Visit the Arbær Folk Museum for an insight into the past way of life in Iceland. See the fishing harbour and shopping district. Swimming is possibly the most common of sports in Iceland, swimming lessons are mandatory in schools and students cannot graduate without passing a swimming test. Dependant on flight times, this afternoon we will visit the Laugardalurslaug Pool in Reykjavík to enjoy a heated outdoor swim, hot tubs, whirlpools and large waterslide. Depart for the airport for our flight home.

The general itinerary will remain the same although some activities may be weather dependent and days may change.

The school will be charging £778 per student, please find below a list of what is included within this cost along with a payment schedule. We reserve the right to withdraw the palce if the behaviour of any student gives cause for concern.

Accommodation - At the moment the intended accommodation will be in the Hotel Fron or the Hotel Viking in Reykjavik. Students will be sharing twin bedded rooms all with en-suite facilities.

Meal Arrangements

Half Board Accommodation:

First Meal - Evening meal on Day 1

Final Meal - Breakfast on Day 5.

Guides & Entrance Fees - All excursions are fully guided by an experienced English speaking guide. All entrance fees required on excursions are included in the tour price.

Travel Insurance – Please refer to the school website for the Insurance Policy.

The payments will be broken down as follows:-

May 3rd £150 June 1st £210 July 1st £210 August 1st £208

The first payment will be regarded as the deposit and only refunded in full should the circumstances of withdrawal meet the term of our insurers. All payments are to be made via ParentPay or PayPoint.

Please complete the attached reply slip and return it to Miss Eeles by Tuesday 3rd May, ensuring that you have also made the deposit payment by this date.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E. Eeles
Visit Organiser

Mrs A McPartland
Business Manager

REPLY SLIP:- PLEASE RETURN TO Miss Eeles by Tuesday 3rd May 2011

Visit to Iceland from Friday 21st October to Monday 25th October 2011.

STUDENT NAME: _____ **FORM:** _____

PLEASE PRINT YOUR CHILDS NAME BELOW AS IT APPEARS ON THEIR PASSPORT

I/We give permission for our son/daughter to participate in the above trip/activity.

I/We understand that the payment schedule is as follows and will ensure that I/We make prompt payment.

May 3rd £150 June 1st £210 July 1st £210 August 1st £208

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS

WE WILL SEND AN EMERGENCY CONTACT AND MEDICAL FORM TO YOU NEARER THE DEPARTURE DATE.

DISCOUNTS/REFUNDS

On some recent visits we have received unexpected discounts from venues etc after students have made payment/participated in the visit.

If you are due a refund greater than £5 we will refund this money to you.

If you made your payment via PayPoint please detail below who you require the cheque to be made payable to:

CHEQUE TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO

Signed _____ Date: _____
(Parent/Carer)

23rd March 2011

Dear Parent/Carer,

Geography Department Proposed Iceland Trip 24th October – 28th October - 2011

I am delighted to inform you that the Geography Department is proposing to organise a visit to Iceland from the Friday 21st October to Tuesday 25th October 2011. The visit will be available to pupils who will be studying Geography from September 2011 in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13.

During the proposed trip we intend to take the pupils to see the edge of the tectonic plate where Europe is moving away from North America and visit Geysir to see Strokkur, the hot geyser that spouts up to 20m every few minutes. We will view the many volcanic features on the island and look into lava tunnels on the famous Keflavik lava fields. We will be visiting some of the famous waterfalls and seeing the black sands of the south coast. Hopefully we will also have time to see some of the glacial features at Myrdalsjokull. We will also have the opportunity to see the world famous Blue Lagoon, a geothermally heated, milky blue pool.

We will be travelling with the company STS travel who we have used for our previous visit to Iceland. They have provided us with the following sample itinerary for the visit. The exact details of the itinerary will be finalised once the numbers for the trip have been confirmed.

Our proposed itinerary is as follows:

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Day One		Flight UK–Iceland	Arrive and check-in
Day Two	Full Day Golden Circle Tour: Hellisheidi Power Plant, Hveragerdi, Geysir, Gullfoss waterfall, Thingvellir National Park		TBC
Day Three	Full Day South Shore Tour: Skogarfoss, Seljandsfoss, Myrdalsjokull glacier, Dyrholaey & black sand beaches, Vik		At leisure
Day Four	Full Day Reykjanes Peninsula Tour: Bubbling mud pools, Grindavik and Blue Lagoon		
Day Five	Check-out & Early morning flight Iceland-UK		

Our evening entertainment is still to be confirmed, however it is likely to be similar to the previous visit where we participated in activities such as bowling.

As you can see there is a lot to do and see and will undoubtedly help our students have a much better understanding of the importance and beauty of our environment and give them a far greater insight of the work we have either been studying or will be studying in the near future.

It is estimated that the cost of the visit, based on a trip involving 40 pupils, will be £758. A trip based on 30 pupils will be £785. There is no maximum limit to the number we can take on this visit. Included in the cost is accommodation, fully comprehensive travel insurance, flights, all meals when we are in Iceland (breakfast, lunch and an evening meal), entrance to the places we will visit, transport and an English speaking tour guide. The only additional money students will require is spending money whilst in Iceland. Students may also wish to take money to spend while in the airports in the UK.

Accommodation for this visit is to be confirmed but will be in a hotel based in Reykjavik. Please note that in the accommodation, we will not have sole use of the building and other guests will be staying there during the trip.

If you would like your child to be considered for the trip please complete the attached double sided form and return to Miss Eeles by **BREAK ON Monday 11th April.** We will then assess the viability of the visit and confirm whether or not your son or daughter has a place on the trip. **Please note, no money is required at this stage.**

Yours sincerely,

Miss Eeles
Geography Teacher

Mrs McPartland
Business Manager

REPLY SLIP

Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 Geography Trip to Iceland 21st October 2011

Please return to Miss Eeles by **break on Monday 11th April 2011** ensuring that BOTH sides of the sheet have been signed in the relevant spaces.

Student Name: _____ Form: _____

I/We would like our son/daughter to attend the Geography Trip to Iceland in 2011.

I/We understand that once we receive confirmation that our son/daughter has obtained a place on the trip we agree to make the following payments

£100 deposit once the trip and your child's place on the trip has been confirmed.

£125 eight weeks after the first deposit has been paid.

Final payments to be made at least 10 weeks before departure.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please detail any medical conditions/medication that your child has/is taking, so that we can inform the insurance company.

Emergency contact details and further detailed medical information will be requested nearer the departure date.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE CODE OF CONDUCT OVERLEAF IS SIGNED BY YOUR SON/DAUGHTER AND YOURSELF.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____

PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE PAYMENT AT THIS STAGE

CODE OF CONDUCT

In order to ensure a happy and successful trip for all, we expect participants to behave in an acceptable and responsible manner.

This will include the following instructions:

- No smoking or drinking alcohol
- Remain in the same groupings unless a teacher has given permission to change
- Remain in your own rooms after a set time each evening as requested by members of staff
- Attend all meals. If you suspect that your friends are not eating enough please let a member of staff know
- Be punctual at all times
- Participate in all activities. You will not be able to remain in your room on your own
- Behave sensibly at all times, you are representing yourself, your school and your country
- Be courteous to all members of staff, other pupils and people met whilst on the visit
- Respect each other's belongings
- Be responsible for your own possessions i.e. money, cameras etc

If participants fail to adhere to any of the above instructions the incident will be reported to the Headteacher and parents will be contacted. Depending on the severity of the incident you may be excluded from any future trip.

Student Name: _____

Form: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Selection

As part of the overall risk assessment which will be carried out, the party leader will consider whether or not any pupil represents a health and safety risk on the trip. It is important that pupils who wish to participate in the trip have been able to demonstrate in school that they are able to observe rules and regulations correctly and do not demonstrate behaviour which would not represent potential risks when on a visit abroad.

Where the party leader believes that a pupil could represent a health and safety risk, we will discuss this initially with the parents and pupil. If, after this discussion, the party leader continues to believe that health and safety risks are such that a pupil should not be allowed on the trip, this recommendation should be submitted to the Headteacher with supporting evidence. The Headteacher will take this recommendation and evidence to the Governors' Committee responsible for approving trips, where a final decision will be made.

Please note that unless a replacement can be found for them on the trip, you will be liable to pay any costs incurred to date.

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Date: _____