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November 2011

Dear Parent/Carer,

VISIT TO CANTABRIA, SPAIN, JULY 2012

We are planning a visit for Year 7 pupils to Cantabria, northern Spain, which will take place from Thursday 12th July to Sunday 15th July 2012. The visit is part of the International Arts Festival, in which all Year 7 pupils participate during the Summer Term.

We shall leave Sale Grammar by coach early on the morning of Thursday 12th July to travel to Stansted Airport and we shall return to Manchester Airport on the evening of Sunday 15th July

The accommodation in which we will be staying is a three star hotel called the Hotel Sandra in the village of Suances. Pupils will be staying on a full board basis including breakfast, packed lunch and dinner. The first meal provided is the evening meal on Thursday 12th July and the last meal provided is a packed lunch on Sunday 15th July. The hotel can provide vegetarian and halal meal options upon request. Pupils will be staying in 3/4 people rooms with en suite bathrooms. Pupils will have access to a games room, and outside recreation area. Please note that we will not have sole use of the accommodation and other guests will be staying at the hotel during our visit.

The visit is intended to provide pupils with an enjoyable opportunity to practise and extend their linguistic knowledge and skills in an authentic social and cultural context, and to develop some of the themes of the Arts Festival, including international cuisine, language, art and artists, together with an insight into the diversity of European culture.

There are various activities planned which include a half day in Santillana del Mar visiting the Altamira caves, famous for their prehistoric cave paintings. Although the caves are no longer open to the general public, there is an excellent visitors' centre which includes a full scale replica of the caves themselves. There will be a full day to Bilbao, the capital of the Basque region, where, amongst other activities, we shall visit the spectacular Guggenheim Museum. Another full day will be spent in the Cabarceno Nature Park.



The cost of the visit is £500 and the expectation of the school is that you will make full contribution. However, if you are unable to fully contribute you are invited to contact the **Business Manager in confidence before Friday 25th November 2011**. The cost includes coach and air travel to and from Santander, full board accommodation for four days (three nights) and travel insurance, along with all activities and entrance fees.

The payment schedule is as follows: **A NON REFUNDABLE deposit of £205 is required by Monday 12th December 2011**, which will allow us to confirm our booking with the travel company. A **second payment of £120** will be payable **on or before 3rd February 2012** and a **final payment of £175 on or before 19th April 2012**.

The students will require additional money for food en route to Spain and also on the way back. Further details regarding this will be given at a meeting nearer the time.

Please note that we require a minimum of 40 students to enable us to proceed with the visit.

Your son/daughter will require his/her own passport and EHIC (European Health Insurance Card) in order for them to travel.

We reserve the right to withdraw the place if the behaviour of any student gives cause for concern.

If you would like your son/daughter to participate in this visit, please complete the attached reply slip and return no later than **Friday 25th November 2011** to Student Services. A decision will then be made on the viability of the trip, if the decision is to proceed then the trip will appear on your ParentPay account and you can **make payment by Monday 12th December**. Please note that the trip will not appear on your ParentPay account until a decision has been made.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Newsham
Head of Modern Foreign Languages

Mrs A McPartland
Business Manager

CANTABRIA, SPAIN

THURSDAY 12th JULY – SUNDAY 15th JULY 2012

REPLY SLIP:- PLEASE RETURN TO Student Services by Friday 25th November 2011.

STUDENT NAME: _____ **FORM:** _____

STUDENT NAME AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT (Please print)

NAME: _____

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

IF YOUR CHILD IS OF A NON-EU NATIONALITY PLEASE CONTACT MISS WALLACE

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS

Please provide contact details below:

CONTACT NAME: _____

RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT: _____

CONTACT NUMBER/S: _____

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please detail any medical conditions/medication that your child has/is taking.

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 original 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)