

24 May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Trip to Iceland - October 2018**

The Geography Department are delighted to announce the details of this year's 4 night/5 day trip to Iceland for 40 students. This is a trip of a lifetime which will allow students to bring the theories and 2D images from the classroom to life. Students will be able to clearly see the links between physical and human geography. This will enhance their GCSE studies of plate tectonics and tourism in extreme environments, and in addition give an insight into 'A' Level geothermal energy and energy conservation, whilst giving students a lasting memory.

Dates: Depart from School on Friday 26 October 2018 to a London airport for a flight to Keflavik. Return Tuesday 30 October 2018.

Accommodation: 3 nights in the Viking Hotel, Reykjavik and 1 night in Hellisholar Cabins, Hvolsvollur. Both hotels are full board with self-made packed lunches.

Tour Guide: For all activities, except the return transfer to the airport, we will have the services of a local fully trained guide.

#### **Itinerary:**

##### Day 1: Arrival Blue Lagoon

We will be met at Keflavik airport by our Guide and taken by coach to the Blue Lagoon to spend approximately 1.5 hours swimming in the warm mineral-rich waters. Entrance and towel included. After the Blue Lagoon we will drive to our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.

##### Day 2: Golden Circle Tour

Breakfast and self-made packed lunches. Morning drive to Þingvellir National Park, site of Iceland's ancient parliament. Here as early as AD 930, Icelandic Vikings gathered for legislative sessions that continued until the late 18th century. The area has been designated a national park and is now on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Þingvellir is a very interesting geological site. The continental drift between the North American and Eurasian Plates can be clearly seen in the fissures and faults that are traversing the region, the biggest one, Almannagjá, a true canyon. We then continue along Lake Thingvallarvatn, to Kerið crater. From there, we will visit Gullfoss waterfall and then travel to the thermal area of the famous Great Geysir region with its spouting hot spring Strokkur. Transfer to Hotel in Hellisholar, for dinner and overnight stay.

##### Day 3: South Shore - Glacier Walk

Breakfast and self-made packed lunches. After breakfast, we head to Sólheimajökull glacier, stopping on route at Hellisheidi Power Plant. The plant constitutes the second largest geothermal power station in the world. Continue to Seljalandsfoss waterfall and Skogar waterfall. Then on to Sólheimajökull, for a glacier hike, where all equipment is provided. The glacier walk is an easy and safe walk on the white and blue ice. Exploration of water cauldrons,

waterways and other ice features. An experienced glacier Guide will teach you how to use the basic glacier equipment. After this experience we will drive on towards the village of Vík. Here we will walk to the sea shore, which is flanked by steep bird cliffs, and where seals are frequently seen and depending on weather and time we might also be able visit Dyrholaey, a magnificent cliff that projects out into the ocean. Afterwards we drive straight back toward Reykjavik for dinner and our overnight stay.

#### Day 4: Reykjanes Peninsula and tour of Reykjavik

Depart after breakfast with packed lunches. Stop at Perlan Platform View where we will enjoy a fantastic view of Reykjavik. Continue to Reykjanes Peninsula. Stops at Lake Kleifarvatn/Geothermal area of Krísuvík, where we see the boiling mud pools at Gunnhver (hotspring)/Continue to the Bridge between two continents, the Leif Eriksson bridge, a small footbridge over a major fissure, that divides the Eurasian and North American plates. Whilst approaching Reykjavik, enjoy an hour city tour by coach and visit the church Hallgrímskirkja. Here we can take a lift up the tower to get a panoramic view of the city. Access to the Tower is payable on the day of the visit. 7-14 yrs old: 100Kr / Over 14 yrs: 800kr. Dinner and overnight stay.

#### Day 5: Transfer Home

Transfer to the Airport for our morning flight.

Costs: Total cost including all transport, full board accommodation, activities and local guide is £935.00.

Payment Terms: To reserve a place please complete the reply slip below and return to Miss Wilson by Friday 9 June 2017. Once a place has been confirmed please can you make a deposit payment of £250 via the Secure Online Payment System (following confirmation of your place, the deadline for this deposit will be Friday 16 June 2017). A schedule for further payments will be issued later.

Please make payments via your online payment account at [www.scopay.com/rushcliffe](http://www.scopay.com/rushcliffe). Please ensure you select the correct product in order for us to track the payments. Guidance is available on the school website at <http://www.rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk/index.php/parent-zone/online-payments>. If you have any further payment queries please contact the Finance team via [finance@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk](mailto:finance@rushcliffe.notts.sch.uk).

Important note: if the trip is oversubscribed priority will be given to students who have previously not been on a residential trip with Rushcliffe School. If we still have too many applicants we will pull names from a hat.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Miss L Wilson  
Geography Teacher

**Reply Slip – Iceland Trip 2018 – Geography – Please return to Miss Wilson**

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Form \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for the above named student to take part in the Geography trip to Iceland 2018.

I agree to make a payment of £250 deposit via the Secure Online Payment System once a place has been confirmed (following confirmation of your place, the deadline for this £250 deposit will be Friday 16 June).

I have completed and signed an EV4 Consent Form.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Carer)