

200 students and 25 staff from four schools.

Accompanying staff:

Alison Walker – Trip Leader and School Improvement Director: Culture & Safeguarding

Jon Peck – CEO

Andy Johnson - Director of Education

Ash Sparks - Assistant Headteacher - Culture and Provision – Cranbury College

MES	MER	MECE	RIVER
Alex Stringer	Dan Bone	Kirsty King	Andy Hartley
Megan Longdon	Zeb Wheeler	Andy Caldwell	Ryan Woodfine
Daniel Pringle		Emma Bliss	
Elysia Avery			
Leslie Dearman			
Sam Pringle			
Summer Blake			
Geraint Thomas			
Lauren Batten			
Freya Barton-Hogan			
Charles Owen			
Annabel Gibson			
Ceri Burns			

The purpose of the evening is to ensure you have every possible piece of information ahead of the trip. I am confident that we have covered everything, so please wait until the end to ask any questions.

Tomorrow I will send all the key points from this evening, so you don't need to make notes.

Please save your questions until the end as I will probably answer them.

Ski clothing

- Snow Union

Extra information

- Do not order a helmet – these are provided in resort
- You won't need snow boots, just sensible footwear suitable for walking on/playing in the snow. Need to be snow proof.
- Everyone on the trip will have a trip hoody (which you have already paid for). It makes us a team and helps us identify students on the journey when we have stops. These are ordered through [Snow Union](#).

Luggage

- Packing list will be sent by email please follow it to the letter
- Stress to all of you especially those who haven't skied before – it's very casual and the same as you'd wear at home. But we will be going to a disco so you might want pack something suitable.
- You will be wearing normal clothes for only a few hours each evening, don't need loads.
- At Easter it can be very warm so you might want to be in shorts and sliders
- Very limited space under the coach, do not bring giant bags or suitcases. **Medium sized squashy holdalls only please** (like the Snow Union one)
- A multiplug extension cable can be very useful so that only one travel adapter is needed
- Please do not bring valuables or anything of sentimental value - it is much safer to leave them at home. I would strongly advise against tablets, iPads etc but if you choose to bring them it is entirely at your own risk.

Labelling

Every year I ask parents to label everything and every year parents completely ignore me and we end up with goggles, gloves and all sorts of other kit that isn't labelled.

Full disclosure – the effort I make to reunite kit with children will be proportionate to the effort you make to label their stuff. In short:

- If you make every effort to label your child's kit, I will make every effort to get it back to you.
- If you make no effort to label your child's kit, I will make no effort to get it back to you. and at the end of the trip it will go in the bin or become ski trip spares.

The average day

6.00	Wake-up call
6.30	Breakfast (eat as much as you like buffet)
7.30	Onto coaches and 30-minute drive to ski slopes for a 9am lesson. This sounds very early but it takes beginners AGES to get ready. It will move back by half an hour during the week.
Morning	3-hour ski lesson
	Lunch break (packed lunch provided). No free skiing.
Afternoon	2-hour ski lesson
	Back to the hotel. We will provide a drink and a bar of chocolate for everyone. Free time.
6.30	Dinner which is canteen style
8.00	Evening activity – more about that from Mrs W later
9.30	To bedrooms. Lights out soon after. Sounds early but by day three they will be asking to go to bed.

Its tiring and hard work – you will have a great time but you need to know **it's a trip not a holiday.**

Pocket Money

- We don't provide food on the journey but aside from that the ski trip is essentially an all-inclusive trip.
- Students often like to buy snacks and drinks in their lunch break, but they won't need to.
- There will be some free time when students will be able to look round the shops. Souvenirs in ski resorts tend to be expensive and tacky. I would suggest you tell your children not to bring gifts back for you (or if they are very keen to, just to buy Italian biscuits/chocolate).
- Approx £20 in sterling and €50 in euros is enough.
- This can be in cash, on a payment card or on ApplePay or Google Pay.

Ski fitness

- After February half term you will be having weekly fitness sessions. They will be on Fridays straight after school for about an hour in your own school.
- These sessions are compulsory, and students' attendance is expected
- Useful for us to keep in contact with the group and for all of us to get to know each other.
- In these sessions we will also organise: Ski hoodies, coach seating plans and rooming plans.
- Students choose who they share a room with – we give them the rooming plan and let them get on with it.
- The same applies to coach seating.
- If you aren't at the fitness session you don't get to choose who you room with or sit next to on the coach.

Dry Slope

Beginner lessons at Aldershot aren't compulsory but experience has taught us that those who do have lessons make much faster progress on snow and enjoy the trip more.

Travel Arrangements

- We'll leave on Saturday 28 March (the day after we break up for Easter)
- Provisional departure is 6pm from this school. All tbc much closer to the time.
- The journey will take up to 24 hours – not as bad as it sounds. First 6 hours passes quickly. After that we watch a couple of DVDs then sleep through the night. Worst part is last few hours when we just want to get there.
- Please bring some suitable DVDs if you have any.
- Students will need food and/or money for food for the journey – the first meal in resort will be on Sunday evening.

- We would also suggest they bring a pillow and a blanket. Also, a toothbrush and toothpaste in their hand luggage. We anticipate arriving back at school at some point on Sunday afternoon, so please be available to collect.

Behaviour

- I will send you a behaviour agreement to read and sign closer to the trip.
- In doing so, students must acknowledge the behaviour that is expected of them and in addition parents agree to take responsibility for their children's behaviour and to pay for any damage they might cause. We are miles and miles up a mountain – can't just get a carpenter or decorator to pop round = ££
- We rarely have behavioural problems on the trip, but in the worst-case scenario, you need to know that we would send a student home, and it would be at your expense. Happily, it's never happened yet on a ski trip and long may it continue.
- *I accept that the school reserves the right to withdraw a place on the trip for students who are persistently late to school or lessons, do not follow our uniform or behaviour policies or bring the school into disrepute. In this event, payments are non-returnable unless a replacement can be found.*

Insurance

Fully insured throughout the trip by the DfE. I will send a link in my email tomorrow.

- You will all have my emergency phone number. 24/7. Not for 'John's hungry, please can you stop the coach,' 'Sarah feels sick, please can you speak to her.' But it **is** for your worries and concerns.

Passports and EHIC

- In the fortnight or so prior to the trip I will collect in passports and EHIC/GHIC.
- Passports need to have 3 months left on them on the date of return. Check now – one girl couldn't come last year because her parents only realised with a week to go.
- We will keep the passport throughout the trip, handing them back on the return leg.
- Students will be given their EHIC/GHIC which they must keep in their jacket pocket for the duration of the trip.
- Vital part of your kit – it guarantees you free emergency treatment should you need it. Without an EHIC, treatment will be delayed and will be charged for.

Administration

A plea. Hours and hours. We are a party of 225 people. When you don't fill in your form or miss a deadline that's more work for me (Hannah) that I could do without. If you booked through an agent and missed the deadlines, you wouldn't go. Same rule applies.

In every message I include the ski email address. Please send queries, questions, and concerns directly to that address and not to the school office.