

01 February 2012

Dear Parents

Proposed History trip for Easter 2013

I am in the early stages of planning the annual History and Politics Easter trip for next year and would very much appreciate your feedback on possible destinations. We have traditionally alternated between long haul destinations such as Cuba and China, and short haul European trips to countries such as Latvia/Lithuania and Germany. This has been consciously done in order to make trips available to as wide a range of pupils as possible.

According to this pattern Easter 2013 should see a History trip to a long haul destination, and we are considering repeating a very successful and enjoyable trip to China. However in the more straitened economic climate, it may be that such a destination is not viable and a European destination would be more popular. Below is a very brief summary of two possible trips for Easter 2013 with an approximate price guide:

China: this would be an 8-9 day full board expedition to Beijing, Xian and possibly Shanghai. It would cover visits to such renowned places as the Great Wall, the Terracotta Warriors and the Forbidden City. It would offer enormous cultural, historical and geographical potential. It would link in with some of the topics covered in the Sixth Form as well as Geography with whom we would jointly run this trip. The all inclusive full board cost is likely to be in the region of £1500

Germany: this would be a 6-7 day trip to Berlin and one other German city such as Munich or Nuremburg and would tie in very well with many of the GCSE topics such as the Cold War and Nazi Germany. Places to be visited would include the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, the Reichstag and a concentration camp. It offers obvious cross-curricular links with German as well as providing an insight into one of Europe's most interesting and important nations. The all inclusive half board cost is likely to be in the region of £550-600. Both trips would run in the first week of the Easter holidays, ie the week beginning Monday 24 March.

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To: Mr S Lemieux, Head of History, The Portsmouth Grammar School

Pupil Name _____ Parent of _____

Please indicate clearly your preference from the three options below and return it to Mr Lemieux no later than Monday 20 February

1. I would be interested in my child participating in a History and Geography trip to China in Easter 2013
2. I would be interested in my child participating in a History trip to Germany in Easter 2013
3. I would be interested in my child participating in either a History and Geography trip to China or a History trip to Germany in Easter 2013

It would be very helpful be at this stage to have some indication of parental preference since I am fully aware that pupil preferences alone do not necessarily accord with parental practicalities!

If therefore you would be interested in the possibility of your son/daughter participating in a History trip next Easter, I would be very grateful if you could complete the slip below and return it to me no later than the first day back after Half Term. Replies by email are equally welcome.

Completing this form places you under no obligation or commitment whatsoever, but will be very useful for me in ensuring which trip if any likely to be feasible next year.

Yours sincerely

S Lemieux
Head of History and Politics