

### AN ACADEMY FOR THE COMMUNITY

March 2014

## REF/ABremner0096

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to be able to inform you that in the Easter Holidays, 2015, we are taking a snowsport trip and city visit to Stowe, Vermont, and Boston USA. This trip is open to those pupils/students <u>currently</u> in **Years 7-12** of all abilities/experiences (you must remain on role at William De Ferrers to be eligible for this trip).

Our destination resort, Stowe, regularly wins international awards and is currently in the Top 10 Ski Resorts in the USA. With massive investment over the last 5 years it has the top of the range facilities, excellent instruction, great varied terrain, and miles and miles of fun! As with every ski trip I've run we have an extra hour of instruction each day – 5 rather than the 4 hours most schools include. This means we fit <u>6 days of action into 5 days on</u> the mountain, adding value.

Our Vermont hotel is on the ideally situated on the mountain road, half way between the town and the base lodge. The Mountaineer Inn has a heated indoor swimming pool and hot tub, private dining for our breakfast and dinner and good quality bedrooms all in a traditional lodge or alpine style. All rooms have private en-suit bathrooms as well the expected amenities, however please be aware <u>students will be sharing rooms containing two queen sized beds and will be 4 to a room.</u>

We will finish our visit to the US with a **2 night stay in Boston!** We have a fantastic 4\* hotel on the banks of the Charles River and an amazing itinerary. The possibility of Whale Watching and a visit to the NEAQ, Quincy Market, the Freedom Trail,

# Proposed Outlined Itinerary (subject to change):

Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Mar: A very early departure from School to catch our flight to BOS and transfer up to Vermont Tues 31st – Sat 4<sup>th</sup> April: Skiing/Snowboarding, various trips/entertainments. Sun 5<sup>th</sup> April: Departure to Boston, with shopping en-route, and dinner in the city Mon 6<sup>th</sup> April: Boston sightseeing, the freedom trail, and hopefully followed by a game or Whale Watching Tues 7t<sup>h</sup> April: Boston all day, visiting Faneuil Hall, Quincy Market, NEAQ, the Pru Centre. Fly Home. Wed 8<sup>th</sup> April: Land LHR after an overnight flight and arrive back at school approx. 12 noon.

# Cost: £1555 Skiing or Snowboarding

**Full Board** (additional expenses will be any spending money and clothing hire/purchase US esta (visa) if necessary and any insurance supplements)

Includes

- All UK and USA transfers by luxury coach
- Return transatlantic flights from LHR
- 8 nights Full Board accommodation
- Ski/Board Equipment Hire including helmets
- 5 days full lift pass
- <u>5 hours skiing/boarding instruction per day for 5 days</u>
- full travel, personal injury and winter sports insurance (including snow guarantee)
- A full and varied evening entertainments and proposed trips programme, including amongst other things: Bowling Night, Outlet Shopping, the Ben & Jerry's Factory and more.
- A night city break in Boston including sightseeing, dinner in the city each night, and shopping at American prices!

With great snow records, the highest quality instruction, less slope users per day per mile, no language barrier, impressive altitude, a longer trip making it a real holiday, and shopping opportunities that are second to none; the additional cost of snow sports in the USA, as compared to Europe, makes it exceptionally good value and a totally different experience.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Under American law <u>all parents/guardians</u> will be required to sign rights waivers to enable their child to ski/board whilst on the visit. Please be assured that <u>this does not affect the insurance cover</u> secured for



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the trip, in addition a helmet must be worn when on the slopes, and wrist guards for snowboarders are mandatory. Please do not hesitate to contact me with concerns or questions about this.

As the trip has limited places students may be prioritised for the spaces based on their attendance, behaviour, and effort in school and will therefore be those students most likely to benefit from the experiences at the heart of the trip. In addition all those accepted <u>will have to agree to and sign an acceptable behaviour policy.</u>

To apply for a place on the trip please complete the slip below and return to the Finance Office after making the **non-refundable** (when allocated a place) deposit of **£355**, through Parent Pay, and a photocopy of your son/daughters photo/details page from their **passport**. The deadline for returns **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June2014**. All students and parents will be informed if they are successful soon after this deadline. If you are unable to make the payments on line, or if you encounter any problems using parent pay, please contact the Finance Office on 01245 326317.

Deposits and instalment payments **cannot** be refunded for any reason (other than medical covered by the trip insurance). we recommend that you take out separate insurance should you wish to ensure the return of your money in the event your son/daughter does not wish to travel. Once accepted on the trip confirmed details of instalments will be sent to you, but will likely be £300 in July, September and October, with the final payment of £300 required in January 2015.

For further information, or to see any of the documentation referred to in this letter, please contact me via <a href="mailto:mcoffey@williamdeferrers.essex.sch.uk">mcoffey@williamdeferrers.essex.sch.uk</a> or in my office on 01245 328024.

Yours sincerely,

### Mr. M Coffey

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30.03.2015 -	SKI USA 2015
08.04.2015 (Organiser – M Coff	
Snowsports Trip to Stowe, VT & Boston, USA 30 <sup>th</sup> March- 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2015.	
I would like to apply for a place on the above trip, the details of which, including rooming,	
insurance and w son/daughter.	vaiver arrangements, have been received and accepted by me for my
Pupil's Name	Tutor Group I have completed
online payment of £355.00 made payable to William de Ferrers School as a deposit on the	
full payment of:	
Skiing	£1555 🗆 or Snowboarding
£1555 🗆	
and a photocopy of the details page from their <b>passport</b>	
I understand that if my child is allocated a place the deposit is non-returnable.	
SIGNED:	Date:
Parent E-mail address (Please PRINT):	
Please return this slip and the passport photocopy to the Finance Office during the following hours only: 8.30 - 8.45 a.m., during break, lunchtime or after school once <b>completed online payment (Parent Pay)</b>	

Headteacher: Neal McGowan Telephone: 01245 326326 Registered Company Number 07552735