



Headteacher: Mr D Reeve BSc (Hons)

Dear Parent / Carer

10 October 2016

Visit: Music Tour to Belgium, July 2017

Date: 15/07/2017 – 18/07/2017 (4 days, 3 nights)

We are writing to inform you of a Music trip that has been organised for your son/daughter to Belgium. It will depart on Saturday 15 July and return on Tuesday 18 July 2017, during the last week of the summer term. The group will be based at a Hotel in the town of De Panne and students will sleep in rooms of between three and four people with an ensuite bathroom and WC per room. We have arranged the trip in conjunction with the Travelbound Travel Group and have opted for this resort and hotel as it is one of their established and most popular tour destinations and the best value for money.

The cost of the tour will be **£335** per student, including:

- Full board accommodation
- Coach travel/channel crossing to and from the resort
- A days pass to all the amusements, rides and attractions at Bellewaerde Park
- Two organised concerts in Belgium
- A day trip to the beautiful city of Bruges (often called Venice of the north), including a river cruise
- Travel and medical insurance

The main purpose of the trip will be to allow your son/daughter to gain confidence and experience performing abroad as part of a performing arts group. The work created may also be used in future School performances and examinations.

Places for this trip are limited this year to 50 and if oversubscribed will be randomly selected and those that don't get a place will have their deposit returned.

Health and Safety is of prime importance on any educational visit involving your child. With this in mind, all Travelbound programmes include a qualified representative on 24 hour call out during the trip, full safety support, English/French-speaking staff, good quality accommodation and emergency back-up. Approximately eight weeks prior to the trip there will be a parents' meeting where you will receive vital information about the running of the trip, clothes needed, emergency contact numbers etc. Notification of this date will be issued nearer the time. Also an OV7 medical consent form will be issued in the spring term, to be filled in and returned to Mrs Kitching. If you have any medical or dietary issues you are concerned about in the meantime and wish to discuss then please contact myself or Mrs Kitching.

If you wish your child to join us for this excellent experience abroad, please complete the reply slip below and return it with a non-refundable deposit of £40.00 by Friday 18th November. Cheques are preferred and should be made payable to The Bishop's Stortford High School. For the rest of the instalments the preferred method of payment will be via ParentPay. Further instalments are required by:

Date payment due by:	Amount due:
Friday 18 th November 2016	£40.00 (<i>non -refundable</i>)
Friday 9 th December 2016	£40.00
Friday 20 th January 2017	£60.00
Friday 24 th March 2017	£60.00
Friday 26 th May 2017	£60.00
Friday 23 rd June 2017	£75.00

Please note that the following are **not** included in the price of the trip:

- Insurance of personal musical instrument – which is highly recommended
- Insurance of mobile phones
- Additional drinks, other than with meals
- Additional snacks for the coach journey, there and back

To go on this trip, students will need an individual passport, valid for the period of travel, and a European Health Insurance Card, EHIC. Applying for an EHIC can be done online: www.ehic.org.uk by calling 0845 606 2030 or by using an EHIC Application Pack from the Post Office. In addition, please note that students who are accepted onto this trip can have their place withdrawn and lose their deposit if there is a behavioural or work related issue which affects their position and ability to represent the school.

You may like to look at the Travelbound website, www.travelbound.co.uk and its links to help make your decision about joining the trip.

If you have any further questions regarding the trip do not hesitate to contact myself mike.cosadinos@tbshs.org at the school. It will be a memorable experience for your son/daughter and we are sure they will rise to the challenges which such a trip will pose.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Cosadinos
Subject Leader for Music

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To: Mrs Kitching Admin office ,Tee corridor by 18 November - Music Tour to Belgium 2017

I wish my son/ daughter..... tutor group..... to participate in the proposed Music Trip to Belgium 15 – 18 July 2017 and I enclose a cheque (made payable to The Bishop's Stortford High School) / cash for £40.00. I understand that this payment is non-refundable unless the trip does not go ahead.

Signature: Date:
(parent /carer)