

15th January 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Final Details for Ski Trips to Italy - 15th to 23rd February 2019

As we approach departure, I write to outline for you important information regarding departure, accommodation and return journey details.

Travel Arrangements:

- The outline shown below will be approximately correct:
- Outward Journey: Depart School 15th 14:00 hrs from Sports Hall car park
Depart Folkestone by Eurotunnel 19:20 hrs
Arrive Calais 20:55 hrs
Arrive Aprica 16th 14:00 hrs (approx.)
- Return Journey: Depart Aprica 22nd 17:30 hrs (approx.)
Depart Calais by Eurotunnel 23rd 11:50 hrs
Arrive Folkestone 11:35 hrs (local time)
Arrive School 15:30 hrs (approx.)

Hotel Details:

Name: Park Hotel Bozzi
Address: Via Europa, 40, 23031 Aprica SO, Italy
Telephone: 0039 0342 746169
Website: <http://www.hotelbozzi.it/>

Your contacts in Italy, in the event of any emergency whilst we are away are:
Mr J Wilcock 07950 454627 or Mr J Elder 07985 775013

Please DO NOT, under any circumstances, use these numbers for travel information, or for non-emergency communication. This number is for use only in the event of a situation which absolutely necessitates your contacting the trip leader in Italy.

Please read the attached sheet carefully for further information concerning the trip.

Beyond this, if you have any queries or concerns regarding the trip, please telephone either of the trip leaders at school on 01604 230240.

Yours faithfully



Mr J Elder
Ski Trip Leader



Mr J Wilcock
Ski Trip Leader

Day of Departure and Outbound Journey

- On the morning of Friday 15th February, the main stowed luggage bag and hand luggage bag need to be dropped off at the Sports Hall Car Park between 7:45 – 8:35am.
- Students will be directed at this time where to place their bags and these will be locked away safely at the swimming pool for the period 9:00 am – 1.00 pm.
- Pupils will be expected to attend lessons 1-5, as normal, in their full school uniform. They can leave their travel clothes with their luggage in the designated store area at the swimming pool and use that space to change at the start of lunch.
- Because of the constraints on time, students are advised to either eat at break time or to bring a packed lunch for the bus journey to Folkestone. Students will probably not have time to eat at the school canteen on Friday lunch, as we will have a 45 minute window in which to have them all meet, change and settle on the bus for departure. It is possible, we have done it this way most years in the past, but we need the boys to get to us promptly after 1:00pm. We will relay this message to them at a meeting ahead of departure.
- Some parents in the past have chosen to drop their son's luggage at school prior to the departure time and wave the coach off. This is fine but we would urge parents intending to do this to please bring the luggage to the Sports Hall car park no earlier than 1.00pm and no later than 1.45pm.
- If you intend to bring luggage at lunchtime, please be aware that parking will not be available at the Sports Hall at the time of departure. We will have lots of students on foot and the coach, plus other school pedestrians in that area at that time. For these reasons we respectfully request you park off-site and walk down the access road to the Sports Hall.
- It would be impractical to have the students take their school bag and uniform, as used for periods 1-5, to Italy with us. We need to ask parents to make arrangements to pick these items up from 1.00pm. Some families do this in person, others ask friends or siblings to bring them home. If any student has a problem arranging this, we can provide safe storage at school for their belongings over the Half Term break. Please just let us know you want this to happen and we can sort that accordingly.
- The target departure time is 2.00pm, but if we are all settled and ready to go prior to that time, it is possible we could depart a little earlier.
- Parents are reminded that once in resort the trip is full board, but our first meal in resort is not until Saturday evening. For this reason, students will need some form of pack-up and / or some Euro's to cover a mid-morning stop on the Saturday whilst transferring across Europe.
- We require all students to wear their NSB ski hoodie for the outbound journey. This will aid group supervision at stops along the way. It is however possible that you will not have your hoodie until the day of departure.

Return to School

- We are due to arrive back at school at approximately 3:30pm on Saturday 23rd February. It is normal practice for drop off to occur at the bus bay at the front of school. However, the coach will not be able to use that space if parents pull into the bus bay. For this reason, can we respectfully request that parents park either in the school crescent, in adjoining streets or perhaps at the Old Northamptonians.
- Please be aware that return times are approximated; if our transfer is affected by any unforeseen circumstances that will significantly alter our E.T.A. to school, we will have the students call home to inform you of this.

IMPORTANT TRAVEL INFORMATION – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

- **VERY IMPORTANT** – Make sure that your son/daughter has his/her **passport and EHIC card** with them, in a zipped pocket in their travel clothes, which they can reach easily in transit, do not pack in stowed luggage!
- **Passports** - please note that we will collect all passports, on the coaches at the time of departure and hold these centrally for the duration of the trip. They will be returned to students once we have passed back through customs on the return journey.
- **European Health Insurance Card** - the students must ensure they bring an up to date EHIC with them on the trip. Students will be instructed to carry the card with them daily on the slopes in a secure jacket pocket.
- The Coach Company has asked that bags should be a soft hold-all type as space in the baggage compartment is limited. Large, rigid suit cases will be difficult to pack.
- If any families have outstanding finances on the balance of payments, could we request that these are cleared in full prior to the date of departure. If this is problematic, could we ask you to contact the relevant trip leader at the school to discuss the matter.
- Please ensure that your child brings a towel.
- Bring a small cushion / pillow for the journey. Students may choose to wear their ski jacket to save space in their luggage. Sleeping bag or blanket for overnight transfers to and from resort is optional.
- The buses are equipped with DVD players. Students may wish to bring their own age-appropriate films. These will be vetted by staff prior to viewing.
- In your hand luggage, make sure you pack the following:
 1. Food for the journey (**no chewing gum, fizzy drinks or sweets please**).
 2. No student is to bring nut based snacks on the buses, given the fact there are students with nut allergies travelling with us on the coaches.
 3. Money (both Euro's and a small amount of sterling for outbound and return trip). For pocket money I advise around €10 a day as a rough guide, but this is entirely your choice and be assured that all meals are provided in resort.
 4. Tooth brush and perhaps a small wash kit to freshen up at the services on the continent.
 5. Book / magazine or other entertainment, but please remember smart phones / cameras etc are taken at your own risk.
 6. **Medication - VERY IMPORTANT** – If you have a medical condition, and need regular medication please ensure that both your Trip Leader and Travel Group Leader (if they are different people) know of the condition and the medication. As a rule of thumb, if your medication involves anything beyond a salbutamol inhaler for asthma, your travel group leader will take responsibility for your medication. Please hand this over at coach departure in an envelope clearly marked with name, medication and details of how to administer.

- Please be aware that it is common for students to bring small games or such to keep themselves entertained in ‘down time’ between activities at the hotel. However, students will take individual responsibility for any valuable electrical items they choose to bring on the trip; ipods, smart phones and such.
- It is our intention to offer a staff ‘bank’ on this trip. This is not compulsory, but any student who would like their travel group leader to safeguard their money whilst in resort can take advantage of this service. The ‘bank’ will be open at designated times throughout the week for students to ‘make withdrawals’. More on that system will be explained to your son prior to departure. Responsibility will not be accepted for any loss of money from students who decide to manage their own finances during the trip.

Parents often request advice on required kit. Please use the following as a guide:

Travel	comfortable loose clothing, packed lunch – absolutely no fizzy drinks, chewing gum, nuts perhaps small pillow / small blanket or such for coach (optional). Passport / EHIC / Euro’s / medication as necessary.
Evenings	It will be cold in resort but we will rarely go out after skiing. Warm, casual clothing to be worn around the hotel. Beanie or such 2 pairs of footwear, - ‘clean’ for the hotel, - ‘dirty’ for the boot room / evening excursions.
Skiing	2 or 3 pairs of thick, warm socks, ‘ski tubes’ are cheap / fine for purpose A pair of skiing gloves (woollen gloves are no good (they stay wet + cold) <i>Base layer</i> – thin long sleeve top or t-shirts You will not need long johns if your salopettes are lined. You could bring thermal top / under armour style base layer <i>Light middle layer</i> - long sleeve top / extra t-shirt <i>Top Layer</i> - waterproof bottoms and jacket <i>Head</i> - eyewear, either sun glasses or goggles Small rucksack for extra clothing / camera / water etc (optional)
General	You will need a Towel Game / magazine / books etc for rooms? You are advised to bring a bin liner to pack damp clothes on the day of return
Reminder	We supply skis, poles, boots and helmet.