



30 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Creative Arts Trip to Hollywood, L.A. Friday 26 March – Thursday 1st April 2021

After our initial disappointment of cancelling our Creative Arts trip to Hollywood this Easter due to the COVID-19 outbreak, we have been fortunate enough to be able to reschedule the trip for Easter 2021. However, due to the rescheduling, some of the pupils scheduled to go on the trip, are now unable to attend. Therefore, we can now offer these places to current year 9 pupils who have chosen music or drama as an option for GCSE.

The cost of the trip has been calculated as £1,658 per student, however, this cost may alter depending on the cost of the re-scheduled flights. This is a fantastic price for such a large trip which will include:

- flights and all transport costs in the UK and in America
- hotel accommodation
- two meals per day; breakfast and evening meal
- two Stella Adler Conservatory for Performers workshops
- one celebrity Q&A
- Warner Bros studio group tour
- Dolby Theatre tour (home to the Oscars)
- Hollywood behind the scenes tour
- admission to Universal Studios Hollywood
- Santa Monica/Venice Beach excursion
- cycle rental
- downtown tour of LA
- visit to the Sky Space (tallest building in LA)
- a USA tour representative for the duration of our stay
- administrative costs and a contingency fund

Our hotel will be situated in downtown LA, within walking distance to the underground and has a rooftop pool deck amenity with skyline views. A continental breakfast is included in the room rate; lunch and other expenses, such as any optional activities, are excluded. I suggest that students allow about £15 per day for extra food, drink and incidentals.

This is the seventh time the drama department has organised a trip of this scale and the school is running this trip through the travel company 'Redline Group Travel' whom we have used on our last five trips. Explicit instructions on where students are permitted to go, what they may do, and to where and when they should return will be given. No student will be permitted to wander alone or outside the defined area. Students will be required to stay in small groups at all times unless given specific instruction by a member of staff. The exact degree of freedom students will be given will depend upon the activity but it will often require the whole group staying together. It is important that parents realise that individual students will not be under the direct supervision of staff at all times during the visit although staff will remain within the designated areas and will be available

should difficulties arise. No smoking or alcohol will be permitted on this trip.

If you are interested in your son or daughter taking part in this trip, please return the attached consent form to me via email, no later than Friday 8 May. Names will then be placed in a ballot and picked at random. Once places are confirmed, full payment via ParentPay will be required by 1 June to secure a place.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email: jpage@st-martins.essex.sch.uk or 01277 238353.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Page
Head of Year 12 & 13 & Trip Leader