

24th February 2014

Ref: SRA/kre/NewYork

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to inform you that the Humanities Department is offering your child the opportunity to visit New York during the February half term of 2015. The trip will run from Monday 16th February to Saturday 21st February 2015 and will give students a chance to experience the city and visit some of the world's most iconic landmarks and educational attractions.

Proposed Itinerary – (subject to change)

Monday 16th February 2014

Arrive in New York at approximately 12 noon. The local representative of the travel company, NST, will meet us at the airport. After taking a coach to the accommodation, the Vanderbilt Y, (Lower Manhattan), pupils will receive a full health and safety briefing and receive a welcome pack.

As a group we will go for an evening meal at the world famous **Bubba Gump Shrimp Restaurant** before heading to the '**Top of the Rock**' observation deck at the **Rockefeller Centre**.

Tuesday 17th February 2015

In the morning we will be visiting the **Ground Zero Memorial Centre** and site to give pupils an in-depth view of the events of 9/11. This will be followed in the afternoon by a walking tour of New York's most famous areas such as **Little Italy, China Town, the Meat Packing District, Central Park** and **Grand Central Station**. Students will have the opportunity to visit shops and take photographs, and in the evening can choose to visit the cinema or to go bowling.

Wednesday 18th February 2015

We will start the day with a visit to the **UN Building** for a tour around the area (with talks) and the opportunity to digest the depth of the work of the United Nations.

In the afternoon pupils will visit the **American Museum of Natural History** to observe the creatures that walked North and South America hundreds of years ago to present day, space and ocean life.

In the evening, pupils will visit **Broadway** for a show (to be confirmed).

Thursday 19th February 2015

In the morning we will be visiting **Ellis Island** and the **Statue of Liberty**. This will give pupils a real insight into the experience of immigrants into the U.S.A between 1892 - 1924, and will be followed by a visit to **The Tenement Museum** to see the way immigrants lived after passing through Ellis Island.

In the evening there will be a walk across the **Brooklyn Bridge**, which will allow for perfect photo opportunities.

Friday 20th January 2015

In the morning students will have free time for shopping before all meeting for lunch, ready to depart for the airport.

The trip will be running through the educational tours company, NST. We will be staying at the Vanderbilt YMCA. The cost is inclusive of:

- Coach transfer from Wilmington Academy to London Heathrow and return
- Outbound and inbound flights
- Accommodation
- Food
- Subway pass
- Entrance into all the places we will be visiting

The total cost of the trip is £1300. This amount can be spread across the year into the following installments:

- By May 31st 2014 - £250
- By August 31st 2014 - £250
- By October 30th 2014 - £250
- By 18th December 2014 - £250

All payments must be made via ParentPay. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

You can of course pay more frequently/higher amounts at your convenience.

If you would like your child to attend the trip please return both the consent form and the agreement, signed and dated with a photocopy of the photo page of your child's passport, along with a deposit of £300 via Parent Pay by 3rd March 2014.

Yours Sincerely

Sarah Rackley
Geography Department

If you would like your child to attend the trip, please read the following information carefully:

- All deposits are **NON-RETURNABLE**, therefore if your child is a current year 11 pupil who is still unsure of whether they will be attending Wilmington Academy next academic year (2014-2015) then it is worthwhile encouraging your child to make a decision promptly.
- If your child has a record of poor/irresponsible behavior then their attendance on the trip may be refused for the safety primarily of themselves, but also for the other students and attending staff.
- If your child attends and is poorly behaved enough to warrant immediate return to the UK, it is the responsibility of the parent to travel to New York to collect and accompany their child back to the UK. Costs would not be covered by insurance.
- On the morning of departure, if your child is not at school for the coach departure time, the coach WILL leave without your child and it will be the responsibility of the parent to get their child to the airport in time for the flight. Any child who misses the flight due to lateness will not be entitled to a refund.
- All pupils will be expected to participate fully in the programme of visits over the course of the week. The visits are compulsory, not optional. Your child should understand this before committing to the trip.
- The accommodation is a HOSTEL. It can be viewed at the following address: <http://www.ymcanyc.org/vanderbilt>
- If you have any concerns or questions please email sarah.rackley@wilmingtonacademy.org.uk prior to paying deposit

.....

Name of child _____ **Tutor Group** _____

I have read and understood the information above and agree to the terms

PRINT NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____