

12<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Re: Iceland 2023 – 1<sup>st</sup> Trip

Dear parents/guardians,

I am writing to you regarding our trip to Iceland next Easter. First, as we get closer to the trip I just wanted to remind people that we ended up having to book for the 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023, which means we will be meeting at school early morning on **Easter Monday**. The exact time is to be confirmed.

With regards payments, many thanks for all your regular payments through Bromcom. As always, if you have any Bromcom queries please contact our finance team - [finance@notredame-high.co.uk](mailto:finance@notredame-high.co.uk)

I will arrange an optional information evening and the date will be confirmed very shortly. The session will just be a case of a series of slides and information and the opportunity to ask any questions. I will make the Powerpoint available in our Group Directories in an Iceland 2023 folder after the evening if you are unable to come along to the meeting and wish to access the information. All the students know how to access documents in the G Drive.

As I have said in previous letters please DO NOT go and buy expensive cold weather gear. You do not need this. Whilst it can certainly be cold, it's not excessive. Think of a cold winter day here in the UK (admittedly the wind can at times make it feel a bit colder). A warm (ideally waterproof) coat would be good or failing that layers of warm clothes and a waterproof jacket. Waterproof trousers can be handy, as depending on weather we hope to be able to walk around the back of a waterfall and also a glacier hike. Comfortable shoes/boots for walking around town and also a little bit 'off road'. Nothing adventurous here but some small amounts of walking off the beaten track. Some walking shoes or boots with some stiffness in the sole for the glacier hike. A warm hat and gloves are essential.

Currency is not difficult to get but may take a few days and require ordering. I tend to get mine from the Post Office at Broomhill.

Some things to keep you going and Google. <https://guidetoiceland.is/you-guide/how-to-drive-the-golden-circle>. The Golden Circle day includes a visit to a geothermal power station and Geysir. <https://www.re.is/day-tours/south-shore-adventure/>. The South Shore day is a long day but rewarded with a couple of great waterfalls and hopefully a glacier hike. <https://hiticeland.com/iceland/notes/the-many-reasons-reykjanes-peninsula-day-tour-is-a-perfect-road-trip-for-stopover-and-short-stay>. Some amazing landscapes on this tour – some great photo opportunities. As well as a Lagoon we will also do an evening swim at the main outdoor pool in Reykjavik. Swimming (or rather bathing) is a national past time in Iceland and they take it very seriously. However, they do insist on everybody showering before they go into the pools and showering is naked showering i.e. before putting on your bathing suits. There are ways around saving any embarrassment and showering before/after others but it's

just one thing to be aware of. You don't have to bathe in these pools (there are café areas to sit in instead) but it would be a shame to miss out.

I have attached a link to a permission slip via a Microsoft Form for you to complete. The deadline for this Form is **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023**. It is a timed form (30 minutes) so please make sure you have the following information to hand:

- Passport
- EHIC/GHIC
- Emergency contact details (x2)
- GP details

If you are waiting for a GHIC/ passport to be delivered please fill in all other parts of the form and send me these details separately when they arrive.

<https://forms.office.com/e/v3qmxJNFDw>

I hope that this provides you with an appropriate update for now. As always please do feel free to get in touch with either myself or one of the team who will be staffing the trip (Miss Struttman, Mrs Harrison, Mr Bunney, Ms Ward and Mr Squire).

Yours Faithfully

Mr M Pickup

Head of Geography

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