15 February 2016

Dear Parents and Year 10 students

Proposed Sydney Excursion for Year 10 students in 2016

The purpose of this letter is to determine the level of support for a Year 10 Sydney Excursion in 2016. This 4 day excursion to Sydney with our Year 10 students has been a tradition for many years. However, we cannot assume each year that it will automatically take place because of the significant costs involved and also the conditions for inclusion on the excursion in terms of expectations of student behaviour between now and then.

The Sydney Excursion involves a full range of educational, cultural and social activities under the supervision of teachers. Accommodation is usually in the vicinity of Darling Harbour and many tours and visits are undertaken in and around the city area. Needless to say, the cost of such an excursion is significant. Over the last few years the average cost has been around $470 for coach transport, accommodation, all tours and some meals. A further amount of $100 was also required during the excursion to cover miscellaneous meals and expenses. It is anticipated that in 2016 the cost of the excursion would be similar. However, with annual increase in accommodation costs, and the fees charged by many of the tours the overall cost may be higher.

A key factor in the success of previous excursions has been the absolute cooperation of students in all aspects of our time in Sydney. Teachers take on an enormous responsibility for 24 hour supervision of students over the four days and students and parents must understand the behaviour expected. If the 2016 excursion is to go ahead, students must be very clear, between now and then, of the behaviour that they must show to warrant our trust in them. Students have been excluded from the excursion in the past for lacking the commitment necessary to ensure a place in the group. This may have involved a lack of academic effort, attendance patterns or general behaviour concerns at school. All students will need to acknowledge an awareness of this expectation on the slip below.

Parents and students need to be reminded that the Sydney Excursion is not mandatory and students may choose not to go. We have also enclosed a copy of the 2015 itinerary which may be used as a guide to the sorts of activities we are involved in while in Sydney.

Could you please complete and sign the attached reply slip and return to the office by Thursday 25 February, so that accommodation and some of the tours can be booked if the excursion is to go ahead.

Yours sincerely

Frances Robertson
Principal

Stephen Summerville
Organising teacher
Sydney Excursion Itinerary 2015

Tuesday 3 June
6.15 am  Depart Cooma on coach
8.45 am  Morning tea McDonald’s Goulburn
11.45 am  Arrive at accommodation – Woolbroker’s
12.15 pm  Coach from Woolbroker’s to Circular Quay
1.00 pm  Ferry from Circular Quay to Manly
1.30-3.00 pm  Manly – group photo on beach
3.15 pm  Depart Manly on ferry for Circular Quay
4.00 pm  Bridge walk to Milson’s Point
5.15 - 5.38 pm  Ferry from Milson’s Point to King St Wharf (Darling Harbour)
5.50 - 6.45 pm  Sydney Aquarium
7.00 – 7.45 pm  Dinner at Darling Harbour
8.00 – 10 pm  Laser Skirmish and King Pin Bowling
10 pm  Return to Woolbroker’s

Wednesday 4 June
7.30 am – 8.00 am  Depart Woolbroker’s – walk to St Mary’s Cathedral
8.00 am  St Mary’s Cathedral
8.30 am  Formal photograph in Hyde Park
8.30 – 9.00 am  Walk to Martin Place “Sunrise”
10.00 am  ABC Tour
11.30 am  Early lunch at Paddy’s Market
12.30 – 3.30 pm  “Les Miserables” at the Capitol Theatre (show starts at 1pm - 2 ½ hours)
3.30 pm  Walk back to Woolbrokers (shower/change)
5.00 - 6.20 pm  Darling Harbour for dinner
6.38 pm  Ferry from Pyrmont Wharf to Circular Quay to view “VIVID”
7.45 pm  Walk to Observatory from Circular Quay
8.15–10 pm  Sydney Observatory: Coach to pick up and return to Woolbrokers
10.00 pm  Return to Woolbroker’s

Thursday 5 June
9.00 am  Depart Woolbroker’s for Walk to Jewish Museum
10.00 – 12.00pm  Jewish Museum
12.30 - 2.30 pm  Coach to Taronga Zoo + Sky Safari
3.45 – 5.00 pm  ANZ Stadium tour
5.00 pm  Travel to Macquarie Centre
6.00 – 8.00 pm  Dinner at Macquarie Centre, North Ryde
8.15 -10.15 pm  Ice skating at Macquarie Ice Rink

Friday 6 June
9.10 am  Depart Woolbroker’s, load gear on to coach
9.30 am  Walt to the Powerhouse Museum
10 – 11.15 am  Powerhouse Museum
11.15 – 12.45 pm  Paddy’s Market + lunch
3.00 pm  Afternoon tea at McDonald’s, Goulburn
5.45 pm  Return to Cooma
Proposal for Year 10 Sydney Excursion in 2016

Student’s name: ________________________________

1. As a parent/carer, I have read the information regarding a proposed Sydney Excursion for Year 10 students in 2016. My opinion regarding the excursion going ahead is:

☐ YES  ☐ NO
(tick one) Parent signature: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________

Comments ______________________________________________________

2. As a student in Year 10, 2016, I am aware of what is expected of me in terms of attitude, effort and behaviour if I wish to be included in the 2016 Sydney Excursion if it goes ahead.

Student signature: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________

Please return the completed form to the office by 25 February 2016