

Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Headteacher: Matthew Quinn B.Ed (Hons), M.A., NPQH

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25th June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Iceland trip – final arrangements letter

I am writing to confirm the final arrangements for the Iceland trip, which is just three weeks away.

- 1. Passports:** I will collect passports on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th July in my office from 8:30 - 9am. Ideally, I would like the two Y11 students to hand theirs in too (even if it is to the main reception), but this may not be convenient if you live some distance away.
- 2. Suitcases:** On the day of departure, the school drive will be open and we will assemble there from 07:15. Please do not bring a very large case (ensure that it is less than 23kg). Hand luggage must be small enough to fit under the seat on the coach/ fit in the overhead lockers in the plane - 10kg max. [Baggage Allowance | Icelandair](#) has further information on baggage, should you require it. Don't forget to pack swimming stuff last so that it is accessible when we are reunited with our cases in Iceland.
- 3. Blue Lagoon update** – I discussed this at the information evening. I had said that a plan B would be the Sky Lagoon in Reykjavik, but this is not an option. Therefore, we are 'all in' for the Blue Lagoon. At the time of writing, the Blue Lagoon is open, so we are going to attempt to go there. The company has managed to book this on our day of arrival (hence my comment in the final point about the packing of swimming stuff last in point 2). Once finished, we will go to Reykjavik for food at the pizza restaurant.
- 4. Travel arrangements:** We will leave from school by 07:30 *at the latest* on the Wednesday 17th July and drive to Heathrow Terminal 2. The flight (fi451) departs at 13:05, arriving in Iceland at 15:15 local time. We will leave Iceland at 16:10 local time (flight fi454) and arrive at Heathrow at 20.20. I expect that we will return to Oaklands at approximately 22:30 on Sunday 21st July, but we will get students to contact you when we are at the top of the A3.
- 5. Delay in return/ emergency contact:** Hopefully, we will not be delayed on our return journey/ experience a problem whilst out there, but if this is not the case, I have organised a 'telephone tree'. I will make one phone call to Mr Quinn and then the parents who kindly offered to act as a leader for a small group of parents will then pass the message on from Mr Quinn to the members of their group. Phone numbers and instructions will be provided on the paper copy of this letter that you will receive **if you have been used**. If your child grants you access to their 'Teams' account for the week, I will post information/updates on their Iceland Team page too.
- 6. Accommodation:** We are staying at the Guesthouse Husid, 861 Hvolsvollur, Iceland (please make sure this is on the luggage label that I will provide to your child when I receive them) Tel: 00354 892 3817.
- 7. Weather:** <http://en.vedur.is/> is the Iceland Met Office website, which is excellent to see what the weather is going to be like.
- 8. Iceland booklets:** Students will be expected to bring their A5 booklet with them on the trip - a further copy will be provided to them after the work experience week. There have been a few changes to the original booklet as there has been one student change and a few muster groups have been altered. Please ensure that your child reads through the booklet before packing and knows which muster group they are in.

8. EU plug adaptor: Don't forget it. Perhaps get an extension cable for the room if there are not enough plug sockets? The students know the rooming arrangements already.

9. Medication/Medical Form: Students with medication should give it to Mrs. Over on the day of departure, should you wish us to look after it. If any changes need to be made to what was written on the medical form already submitted, please inform me as soon as possible.

10. Final itinerary: I now know the order of the excursions:

- Wednesday: Blue Lagoon, Bridge between Two Continents, Pizza in Reykjavik
- Thursday: Golden Circle – Kerid volcano, Geysir, Gulfoss etc
- Friday: Heimaey boat trip – climb the Eldfell volcano, coach tour around the island, swimming in the outdoor pool, Gluggafoss waterfall
- Saturday: South coast – Vik, basalt columns, glacier walk, Skogafoss and Seljalandsfoss waterfalls
- Sunday: Reykjavik in the morning and then fly home.

I think that is everything, but if you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me – m.bamford@oaklandscatholicsschool.org.

Kind regards,



Mark Bamford - Assistant Headteacher