

EB

22 January 2010

Dear Parents

Thank you for your cooperation before Christmas, I now have copies of all passports and all but a handful of medical forms returned.

Firstly please accept my apologies for the error over the billing for the trip. Due to an oversight the £250 second instalment was not added to the school bill for the Spring term. To rectify this matter there are two choices available; you may chose to send in a cheque for £250 with the return slip below or you may prefer £250 to be added to the Summer term bill taking the total added at that time to £500.

As there are now just 9 weeks before we depart for Iceland I thought you would appreciate a kit list and some final details about our visit that should ensure maximum safety and enjoyment for everyone.

The kit list provided by our travel company is most thorough. It should be stressed that the weather in Iceland changes very rapidly and the need for warm, waterproof clothing is imperative; there is a saying in Iceland that *if you are not enjoying the season at the moment you need only wait 5 minutes for another one to come along!*

We will be fully catered for on our trip once we are in Iceland but students will need to bring food for the journey or money to buy food. Once in Iceland there will plenty of opportunities to buy snacks but a small supply of preferred biscuits/cereal bars and instant hot chocolate would be advisable (3kg of food are permissible on entering Iceland but not meat, eggs or dairy products).

Understandably students will want to bring mobile phones and other valuable items such as iPods. They must however understand that it is their responsibility to keep these safely and sensibly.

Students should hand in their passports and EHIC cards to me during the week of **15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> March** however during our journey, students will be responsible for their own passport; once in Iceland we will collect the passports back in and ensure they are kept securely at the hotel.

Although we will carry a first aid kit, students may wish to take basic medication with them including perhaps travel sickness pills, throat sweets, lip balm and plasters. Any other medication should be declared to a member of staff so that it can be kept safely and administered correctly. We trust you will alert us before the trip if your son/daughter has any changes to the details given on their medical form.

We have been advised that currently it can be difficult to buy Icelandic currency in some parts of the UK so you may want to organise spending money well in advance. Due to the recent financial problems in Iceland the exchange rate is fairly favourable so we are asking that no more than £100 be brought on the trip.

Students may want to bring a bank card for more expensive purchases (there are two cash machines in Hverqagerdi) but again this will be their responsibility.

Attached to this letter you will find a guide to current airline regulations regarding liquids in luggage and also a code of conduct. I would appreciate you talking through this guide with your son/daughter before we travel and returning one signed copy to me by 12<sup>th</sup> February.

Finally may I remind you that all the travel details can be found on the previous letter and that students need to be at school by 5.15 am on Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> of March. I will also arrange for this to be put on the Parent section of the website, so you can refer to it online.

Many thanks for all your help and please feel free to contact me with any queries regarding the trip.

Yours sincerely,

LIZ BROWN  
Head of Geography