



ABINGDON

From: Rev'd Paul Gooding, Middle Master & Assistant Chaplain

20 November 2015

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Finland Winter Wonderland Expedition Friday 16 December – Friday 23 December 2016

Finland is a winter wonderland in December and boys will be able to experience a true winter adventure as they take part in: cross country skiing, ice climbing, riding husky dog sleighs, trekking through the snow covered Oulanka National Park, learning winter survival skills, reindeer lasso throwing as well as building (and sleeping in) their own quinzees!

The group will stay in a large and remote wilderness cabin base camp just outside the Arctic Circle which contains a sauna and outdoor hot tub. From our base we hope to see the majestic Northern Lights. One night will be spent in a Jussinkämpä hut as part of the trek into the Oulanka National Park and there will be an option to stay in the quinzees that the boys will build. I have attached a summary of the trip for your information. The final cost is expected to be £1660 according to the size of the final party. The first deposit is £500, payable by the 6 January 2016; the balance will be added, in two equal portions, to the April and July 2016 School term bills. The cost of the trip includes: air fares, entry fees, meals, instruction, arctic clothing (please ensure you have your own thermal underwear however!), travel insurance, accommodation and airport transfers. Additional costs will include: the cost of a Finnish visa for boys from outside the EU, money for additional drinks and souvenirs. Mr Fishpool, the Senior Teacher and Head of Geography, and myself will accompany the boys on this expedition. All activities will be run by professional experienced English-speaking instructors. Please note that our agent advises me that the airlines have not yet published the schedules for direct flights from London to Kuusamo so there is a small chance that the trip might move forward or backwards by one day.

If you are interested, please return the two consent slips to me with a non-refundable cheque for £500 (made payable to *Abingdon School*) by **Wednesday 6 January 2016. This should be returned to me.** There is a minimum requirement of 20 boys for this trip to proceed. In the unlikely event that we receive less interest than this, the price of the trip may increase and I will write to inform you of the new price. If you are not happy with this new price then your £500 deposit will be returned in full.

Please note that by completing and signing the consent form (providing the trip proceeds) you are committing to the total cost of this trip. The non refundable deposit secures your son's place, but thereafter the School will proceed to make bookings and reservations to procure the best possible deals. The payment arrangements offered are a means of spreading the cost rather than a reflection of when liabilities are incurred.

Given that the 2015 trip was heavily oversubscribed I need to point out that places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. A reserve list will be created when all places have been filled. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me; email is best: paul.gooding@abingdon.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Paul Gooding - Master, i/c Finland 2016 Expedition
paul.gooding@abingdon.org.uk

Finland 2016 Parental Consent Form 1

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND THE CHEQUE TO REV'D GOODING

Friday 16 – Friday 23 December 2016 (NB: dates may move by one day, either way, depending on flight schedules which are to be announced soon)

To: Mr Gooding

I would like to book a place for the 2016 Finland trip for my son

NAME:YEAR

Date of birth

(Please PRINT BELOW your son's first name and surname **EXACTLY** as on passport, needed for flight-booking)

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I enclose a cheque for a non-refundable deposit of £500 (made payable to "Abingdon School"). I agree to the first instalment of £580 being included on the April 2016 bill and the balance to be added to the July 2016 School Fee bills.

Please note that by completing the consent form you are committing to the total cost of this trip, the non refundable deposit secures your son's place, but thereafter the School will proceed to make bookings and reservations to procure the best possible deals. The payment arrangements offered are a means of spreading the cost rather than a reflection of when liabilities are incurred.

Signed (Parent/Guardian).....

Name.....

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Abingdon School, Park Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1DE

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www.abingdon.org.uk