



ABINGDON

From: Mr M G Dempsey, Master i/c Madagascar Field Trip 2018

30 September 2016

Dear Parents,

### **Biology Field Trip Madagascar – July 2018**

I am planning to take a group of our Biology students on a trip to the forests and coral reefs of Madagascar in order to participate in scientific research in the summer of 2018. This trip will be open to any students from the current 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and Lower 6<sup>th</sup> years.

#### **Provisional Dates**

Saturday 14 – Saturday 28 July 2018

(Please note that these dates may change by one day depending on flight availability)

#### **Guide Price**

£3250 (The final cost of the trip may vary slightly depending on flight prices, but it should be between £3150 and £3350)

#### **Trip Outline**

The trip is organised by Operation Wallacea. It will involve a week working with scientists in the Mahamavo dry forest ecosystem home to Lemurs and Chameleons followed by a week diving on the tropical reefs at Nosy Be Island (this will include acquiring the PADI open water dive qualification). Operation Wallacea is an organisation that runs several conservation research programmes around the world, involving scientists from international universities. Working with Operation Wallacea enables our students to get involved with real research in one of the most biodiverse areas on Earth. Previous experience shows that this is a fantastic experience with real academic merit.

#### **Signing up**

I hope that your son is interested in this trip and I would like to invite you to attend an **information evening at 6pm on Tuesday 1 November at Abingdon School**. If you would like to attend the information evening or would like your son to attend the trip please let me know by e-mail with an expression of interest. In the meantime you will find the Madagascar pages on Operation Wallacea's website [www.opwall.com](http://www.opwall.com) to be very informative.

As this trip will have limited numbers it will operate on a first-come, first-served basis. In order that all parents have an equal opportunity to consider this trip consent forms will not be issued until after the information evening.

Yours sincerely

**Mathew Dempsey - Master, i/c Madagascar Field Trip 2018.**  
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