

13 January 2009

Dear Parent

**COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL YEAR 9 & 10 COURSE
BRIENZ (INTERLAKEN), SWITZERLAND**

Detailed below are the final arrangements for the Year 9 and 10 Ski course to Switzerland between Friday 13th February and Saturday 21st February 2009.

1. **Travelling Arrangements**

There will be 3 x 49 seater coaches with video, toilet, reclining seats, hot and cold drinks bar. The coach company is "Thomas Coaches" (Rhondda) 01443 433714.

Departure

Pupils are asked to load their baggage no sooner than 14.00 on Friday 13th February. Depart Cowbridge Middle School at 14.30 arriving at Dover, 19.30 for 20.30 departure, P&O. Travel all night to arrive at resort 14.00 hours.

Return Journey

Depart Brienz 18.00 hours, Friday 20th February, arriving at Calais 06.00 Saturday 21st February for 07.00 departure. Arrival Middle School 12.00 noon – be prepared for an earlier arrival time, we will notify you en route.

2. **Eating During Outward and Homeward Journey**

During the journey between Cowbridge and Dover, there will be a stop at a Service Station. I suggest that pupils bring sandwiches for the French part of the journey. Cost of food on journey not provided. Euros needed if we stop in France.

An evening meal will be provided on arrival at the Hotel. I also suggest that pupils may want to take a supply of sweets, etc. for the course – they are more expensive in Switzerland. **Tuck shop** will be provided on the coach and will also be available at the resort – British money please. *We will carry a stock of drinks, crisps and chocolate.*

3. **Hotel Address**

**HOTEL BRIENZERBURLI
BRIENZ, CH-3855
SWITZERLAND**

Tel (from UK): 0041 3395 11241 Fax: 0041 33951 3841
Manager: Peter Huggler Email: hotel@brienrburli.ch

4. **Emergency**

Should there be an emergency during our time in Switzerland, we will contact our home based Emergency contact – Mrs Margaret Evans, Headteacher. She will contact you immediately to provide information and advice. Please label all articles above that price and **keep safe!**

5. Packing

One medium sized suitcase only – maximum dimension 70cm long, 40cm wide and 30cm high. I will show pupils in school the size of luggage and essentials that are needed. The double-decker coach has limited storage and if the bags don't fit then they won't go. Bulky items like ski jackets can be worn on coach. No need for more than one pair of shoes and two pairs of trousers. Make sure that your child has a pillow for the coach journey. One can take hand luggage on the coach containing sandwiches, books, CD players etc. for entertainment. Please ensure that there is a name-tag on these items, especially cameras. Please check that ski clothing, gloves, woollen hat, goggles and at least two pairs of ski socks have been packed. We suggest that your child has a supply of throat lozenges and some lip salve. It is important that each child has a card in his/her jacket to put the ski boots and ski numbers on, and this should be carried with them at all times when skiing. It is advisable that your child has sunglasses or goggles and a supply of sun tan cream with a block factor, depending on the skin sensitivity. Please bring your own towel. Please make sure of plenty of warm clothing – thin layers – it could be very cold.

6. Ski Hire Clothing – This is your own responsibility

7. Pocket Money

As mentioned in the previous correspondence we need £60 in Swiss Francs by Friday 31st January. We will not be exchanging sterling for Swiss Francs for students as in previous years. Pocket money will be distributed on a daily basis. Should you want to get your own money – then do so but your child is responsible for their own money. It is advisable to have some euros for the French part of the journey in their pocket.

8. Customs

Only children of 17 years of age and over are allowed to bring back Duty Free Goods. Thus there will be **NO** purchases.

9. Passport and EHIC (European Health Insurance Card)

All children are travelling on their own passports. I will need these in my possession before **Friday 31st January** or hand in with pocket money. Please put EHIC cards safely inside passport. Pocket money, passports and EHIC cards to be handed in as follows:

- Year 9 Mrs A Pickford
- Year 10 Mr A Weeks
- Directly to the Curriculum Assistants

10. Conduct

Parents are reminded that they will be expected to support the school staff accompanying this excursion regarding their insistence upon the highest standards of conduct and behaviour at all times. This will be both an Educational and Social course and, therefore, everyone is expected to contribute to the enjoyment of the entire journey and stay by exercising common sense and courtesy throughout. **The school will not tolerate the use of any drugs, tobacco, alcohol or any other illegal drug.**

Should you need to contact me prior to departure kindly phone 01446 772311.

Yours sincerely

David Griffiths
COURSE LEADER