



# Stewards Academy Residential Trips 2019



Dear Parents and Carers,



Stewards Academy always strive to offer a full complement of enrichment activities for our students throughout the year. This year students that met the criteria had the opportunity to attend a range of residential trips to New York, Ardèche, Weymouth, skiing in Altenmarkt and WW1 Battlefields in France. Our special edition trips newsletter provides you an insight into the trips and captures the great fun had by all!

We are very appreciative of our trip leaders Mr Harman, Mr G. Hughes, Mr Sanders, Mr Locke, Mr R. Treamer and Mr King for organising and overseeing the trips this year. Without the dedication and commitment of the trip leaders and staff who supported, these trips would not be able to run.

Preparations are already underway for next year's trips and a payment schedule reminder has been provided on the back page for those that have signed up: New trips for next year are Naples and Madrid.

**Miss Johnson, Assistant Headteacher: School Organisation and Enrichment**





# New York 2019



Stewards Academy's annual trip to New York was an eventful one this year. After an early meet on the day of travel the students were very excited to touch down in New York hours later. The weather was kind to us this year with temperatures only as low as minus 5.

As we arrived earlier than normal and were able to get into our rooms as soon as we checked into the hotel, we decided that evening we would visit the Wollman Rink, better known as the Ice-skating rink from Home Alone 2. All the pupils took part in ice-skating with many taking advantage of the hot chocolate and cakes from the café. Ms Dangerfield and Ms Tovey seemed to enjoy the ice just as much as the pupils even if they had to stop to pick some pupils up every five minutes.

We awoke on the first morning for an exciting, busy day. After our traditional breakfast at a local Deli we left for the bus depot. We took over a public bus with 41 pupils and 4 staff all itching to get to the bargains at the outlet mall in Jersey. With money burning a hole in their pocket, pupils were given ample amounts of time to spend their money at the variety of shops including, Abercrombie and Fitch, Hollister, Timberland, Nike, Adidas, Pink and a whole host more. Laden with bags we headed back to the hotel to drop of our purchases before grabbing dinner and heading to bed.

After a day of shopping it was time to take in the world famous landmarks and sites of New York City. The day started with a

subway ride to South Ferry at the very bottom of Manhattan Island. We left

the train to board the Staten Island Ferry. This allows us to get a good view of the Statue of Liberty and the New York Skyline. We completed the round trip and began our walk back towards Wall Street. We stopped at the famous Brass Bull for photos amongst the crowds then on to the World Trade

Centre Memorial. As always the pupils were very respectful whilst we walked around the infinity pools, asking poignant questions about the Twin Towers and the site on which they were standing. One of the most emotional symbols we saw were the red roses placed on people's names to show that that day would have been their birthday. Lunch and then more walking followed. We took in the Brooklyn Bridge, Canal Street and Tribeca, before jumping on the subway again to travel to 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Here we climbed the steps of the disused railway that has now been transformed in to a walking park known as the Highline.

Having walked about 12 miles everyone was tired and cold but having no time to rest we walked to Ellen's Stardust Diner. The atmosphere at Ellen's Stardust Diner, where the waiting staffs sing show songs whilst you eat, soon woke everyone up. Even with the long queue and wait time the pupils and staff all enjoyed the live entertainment and food.





# New York 2019



Our last day in New York meant an early start again, as cases had to be left in one room before we checked out. We took the pupils to the Empire State Building. Having been to the top of the Empire State at least 8 times, I decided to leave the group in the capable hands of Ms Dangerfield, Mr Kelly and Ms Tovey whilst I purchased souvenir t-shirts for all the pupils. Pupils and staff managed to get a glimpse of the Statue of Liberty and the World Trade Centre Freedom Tower. A speedy walk to Grand Central Station soon warmed us all up. We entered the main terminal which as

always amazed the group with its architecture and size. More shopping followed with a stop at Bloomingdales for little brown bags and more make-up for the girls and then a walk along 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. We didn't have long on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue as the shops are expensive and we needed to head back to the hotel.

The flight home was as smooth sailing as the flight out. Most people slept for most of the flight, which was only just over 6 hours due to the tail wind speeding us along. Once landed we

took a very quiet coach ride back to school, where parents collected very tired but happy pupils ready to go home to their own beds.

In all, it was a very successful trip, even with the cold and the rain. However, this trip could not be run without the staff and a special thank you must go to them. Although it is a privilege to be asked it is, contrary to popular belief, hard work. That however, is made easier by the pupils that went this year who were a pleasure to take away. I look forward to taking the next cohort of Year 10 next year.



Mr Harman, Trip Leader



# Ski Trip - Altenmarkt, Austria 2019



We departed for our annual ski trip (our sixth trip to date) in high spirits. There were 40 pupils across years 8,9 and 10 accompanied by five members of staff: Mr Sanders and Mr Tremer (trip leaders), Mrs Hunt, Miss Lucas and experiencing her first school trip was a very excited Mrs Preston.

We arrived at our crossing nice and early, giving staff and pupils a chance to explore the boat and purchase some essentials for the long coach journey ahead.



We travelled through the night and what better way to integrate yourself with the locals by enjoying the local cuisine - a tasty Burger King was the pupil choice! You can take the pupils out of Harlow but you can't change their eating habits!

We eventually arrived at our hotel on Saturday morning, having managed a few interrupted hours sleep on a boisterous coach, thanks to the Year 9 and 10s at the back of the coach! We dropped our bags off at the hotel and set off to collect our ski equipment from the local ski hire shop, with the obligatory snow ball fights ensuing at any opportunity.



Before dinner we had an opportunity to explore the local town of Altenmarkt, seeing some of the local sights and landmarks and of course stocking up on the essentials from the Spar shop - sweets, fizzy drinks and Milka chocolate for the teachers.

After dinner there was time for a quiz organised by our ski rep; Graham.

Although close, Team Tremer ran out narrow winners, although there were definitely some dubious points scoring going on amongst all the teams. Early to bed was the order of the day (that was the plan), but some pupils thought better of it, chatting away to the early hours of the morning, clearly excited about the days ahead.



Pupils were up by 7am for breakfast and were blessed with beautiful sunshine and warm temperatures, much to the shock of the party who had been told to expect cold temperatures and plenty of snow. It didn't take long before numerous layers were removed. Sun tans to be had everywhere, (not mentioning any names, Miss Lucas) but more importantly plenty of smiling faces. Pupils were assessed by the instructors and then separated in to their groups and off they went, experiencing snow in the beautiful mountains of Austria.





# Ski Trip - Altenmarkt, Austria 2019



Pupils skied for two hours every morning, followed by a break for lunch and then completed their skiing with a further two hours instruction in the afternoon. There were some very weary and tired bodies at the end of each day. They were given a two hour break once returning to the hotel where they had the option of heading in to town, swimming at the hotel or catching up on some sleep!

Each evening we had a traditional 3 course Austrian meal, which was followed by the awarding of t-shirts to be worn the following day and the forfeits cards which provided entertainment for everyone that wasn't nominated. That certainly wasn't the end of the day.



Each evening the pupils had the opportunity to take part in different activities either in the hotel; table tennis, table football, climbing, watching films or activities outside the hotel; swimming at the local pool, pizza night and enjoying the lucky Flitzer (a rollercoaster built at the bottom of the mountain).



After 5 days of amazing skiing, entertainment and fantastic weather, it was time to bid farewell to Austria for 2019. Some pupils were ready to go home, tiredness and a lack of sleep certainly catching up with them, although the majority would happily have stayed on and carried on their adventure.

After our final dinner we packed our belongings and set off back to Harlow, the coach was a lot quieter on the way home, with many sound asleep within the first hour. Thank you all for a brilliant trip and some lifetime memories. We hope to see some of you back next year.



**Mr Sanders, Trip Leader**

## SKI TRIP AWARDS:



**Quote of the week:** After losing her phone at the dinner table, she said ' what am I supposed to do now.....talk to people?' **Lily**

**Fall of the week:** Took out a whole restaurant, whilst trying to stop, chairs, tables and cutlery went everywhere! **Megan**

**Skier of the week:** Growing in confidence and skiing backwards (intentionally) and can parallel turn. **Archie**

**Donkey of the week:** Dropped his phone off-piste and it slid away and disappeared for good. **Louie**

**Star of the week:** Helping the star and being really positive all week. If there was a best waitress award she would have won this as well. **Carys**

**Mr Treamer's Snow Plough of the week:** Nailing the snow plough. **Amber**



# WW1 Battlefields 2019



On 4<sup>th</sup> April 28, Year 9 and 10 students departed Stewards for the Battlefields trip in Northern France and Belgium. It was the first trip that the History Department had taken abroad and it was a great success. After travelling to France via the Eurotunnel, we embarked on exploring the sites and cemeteries of the First World War. Our first stop was Langemark cemetery which is a German military cemetery. It was an important part of the trip to understand the war from a German perspective so this was a very valuable experience.



Our next stop was Tyne Cot Cemetery which is the largest commonwealth war grave. Pupils learnt about the fallen soldiers for Britain the commonwealth. Harry Payne was even able to locate one of his ancestors (see left).

The final part of the first day was a very moving experience as we observed the last post ceremony at the Menin Gate. Kai Henson, Mia Christie and Kane O'Connor represented the school by laying a wreath. All of the students impeccably observed the ceremony and did the school proud. Many thanks also go to Miss Pelka and Mr Hawk for making the arrangements for us to take part in this ceremony.



On day two pupils visited the Deville Wood cemetery which focuses on the role of South Africa in the First World War and then the famous Thiepval memorial. In the afternoon we visited the fascinating Newfoundland Park where pupils could view a trench system and learn about the bravery of the Newfoundlanders during the Battle of the Somme. The guides were incredibly helpful and the students really benefited



from their knowledge. We finished day two with a visit to Vimy Ridge in which we could venture into a tunnel system the Canadians used during the First World War. Pupils were shocked by how small the tunnels were and the stories of messengers who had to relay messages between the front line and support trench.

Finally, on day three we were able to visit Ypres where pupils were given free time to go shopping to go and buy Belgian chocolates and gifts for their loved ones. Although I'm not too sure how many of those chocolates made it beyond the coach journey home!

It was a brilliant trip and a special thank you to Mr Hawk and Miss Harbutt who put a great amount of effort into making the trip such a success. The pupils enhanced their

knowledge of the First World War and the Battle of the Somme in particular. They gained a better understanding of why the war was such a significant part of British history.

**Mr J King, Trip Leader**



# WW1 Battlefields 2019





# Weymouth 2019



On the 13th May we set off on the long 4 hour journey to Weymouth. We arrived to spectacular views of Chessil Bay, accompanied by glorious sunshine. Greeted by our activity leader, 'Joel', we knew the pupils were in for a great week.



Early on our first full day saw two groups visit the Olympic Sailing venue at Portland Bay where we were lucky enough to see the European Sailing Championships. Our pupils showed the same heart as the athletes as we tackled the windy sea breeze. We spent the morning kayaking and playing some games. It's safe to say we all

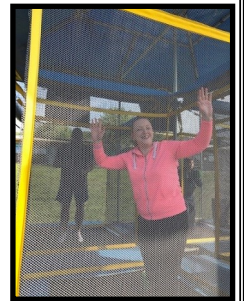
got wet!

Our other two groups were overcoming their own fears on the giant swing. A few pupils dared to go all the way to the top, pushing themselves to the limit. It was great to see pupils challenging themselves throughout the day. They also took part in rifle shooting,

where a few pupils demonstrated a straight eye by successfully hitting the bullseye.



On Wednesday 15th May the pupils' adrenalin was pumping as zip wire and aeroball were both on the cards for our morning activities. They soared through the air, reaching high speeds. The pupils' competitive nature came out with aeroball, whilst trying to score as many points as they could. Miss Wooley and Mr Davies had a grudge to settle, so they decided to settle it over a game. The result was a land slide, but to whom I wonder... You will have to ask them to find out.



In the afternoon pupils could have given Robin Hood a run for his money during archery. After getting to grips with the bow and arrow pupils were scoring highly adjusting their aim for the slight breeze.

The second evening session was a beach walk in the warm sun. Pupils played beach games and skimmed stones; some were definitely more successful than others in this. After learning about the rich history of the bay and King George III, the children went in search for hidden treasure in the form of sea glass. The determination to find the treasure was astounding.



Following our evening entertainment, we all went back to the beach for a stroll to watch the sun set in a beautiful setting. As the temperature dropped, we made a campfire to stay warm. The crackling sound of the fire and the smell of roasting marshmallows was a great way to finish a very tiring day.



Thursday brought more enjoyable weather. A crisp morning saw two groups tackle building a raft. The groups knot skills were tested as they climbed aboard the wooden structure. Some pupils sacrificed themselves for the good of the structure: turning the event into open water swimming. Pupils were enthralled with the experience and fun was had by all.





# Weymouth 2019



After Lunch on Thursday, we all had a treat and tucked into an ice cream whilst soaking up the sun in a perfect setting. A fitting way to reward the pupils' positive attitude and bravery demonstrated during the activities.



The trapeze was the afternoon activity with pupils reaching dizzying heights. Getting to the top of the trapeze was only the first challenge. The children were dared to do a leap of faith by jumping off the top into a free fall. It was fantastic to see them all pushing their limits; pushing through the fear.



Thursday evening saw the traditional fancy dress disco take place. Pupils dressed up in some excellent costumes and were rewarded for their efforts. The group enjoyed a final evening with our group leader Joel who continuously said how fantastic the kids had been.



Our final day in Weymouth meant that we only had two activities left. The first activity, Jacobs ladder, was an opportunity for the group to work as a team to achieve a goal. The pupils' nerves would be tested again as the top of the ladder was incredibly high.



Our final activity of the trip was climbing. Pupils tackled the climbing wall choosing three different routes ranging in difficulty. After the climbing wall, they had a chance to demonstrate their bouldering skills moving

from one side of a wall to the other. If pupils wanted to give this another go, they could visit the Lock in Harlow to tackle an even higher wall and really test their nerve...

During the week, I was so impressed with every single pupil on the trip. They overcame fears, completed tasks and made the trip extremely enjoyable. The group were fantastic on the trip! Some more pictures from the trip...



## Quotes of the week

"I loved our amazing group leader and the activities were amazing" - Charlotte R

"PGL was great. It was pure fun. I am so glad I didn't miss out and tried everything. It really did help push my limits" - Devalan

"I loved PGL. I mostly liked kayaking. The water was salty, very salty. You may say it 'assalted' me." - Emily

Mr S Locke, Trip Leader



# Ardèche 2019



What a wonderful trip! It started on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May, leaving the school at 22:00, which meant that no one was going to get any sleep! It took 16 hours, and a very smooth ferry journey, to get to our destination. Unfortunately when we arrived the British weather had followed us to France, with the rain pouring down, but this didn't stop us. Bags were dropped in to the cabins and the students got straight into the river to do their first activity, a river dip in the freezing water.

Our PGL site was in Lou Valagran, which is close to the River Ardèche. The Scenery and location is unspoilt, with forest and hills all around. It's a perfect place for all adventure activities.

After a good nights sleep it was straight on to the Ardeche river for the two day descent, our main event. The students completed 32 kilometres



in two days, with a stop for an overnight stay on the river side. The students fuelled up on spaghetti Bolognese, cake and a massive BBQ made up of local French meats and delicacies. The students then slept under the stars in just their sleeping bags. Day one included rock jumping, capsizing and general water fights whilst getting to grips with their canoes. Day two

consisted of some fast-flowing rapids, rock jumping and a sun bathing as the weather began to turn in our favour.





# Ardèche 2019



Our first full day on site consisted of stand-up paddle boarding, a new activity this year, mountain biking around the picturesque towns and villages and raft building. It was brilliant to see students embracing new activities and listening to instructions given to get the most out of the activities, everyone managing to stand up and paddle down the river!

That afternoon, we went on a trek to the Cascades. The students got to see the beautiful waterfalls, but more importantly, got to rock jump into the river!



The next day was site based again - this time the morning consisted of High Ropes, Jacob's ladder, and kayaking. The students had a chance to get to know each other and compete against other groups for a chance to win ice creams!!! It was amazing to see students solve problems, work in teams, and overcome any fears they had. Every student got stuck in and enjoyed every moment.



On Friday we took a trip out to experience Canyoning. This activity was definitely my favourite part of the trip. The students experienced sliding down smooth rock features, jumping off huge rocks and going over the canyons on a zip wire. A huge congratulation's to everyone as getting down the canyon was certainly one big challenge, ESPECIALLY with the weather changing constantly meaning the rocks became more slippery to climb over.

I would like to thank all the students, Miss Venables, Mr Treamer, Mr Ford and Miss Webb for making the trip so memorable. The students were very well behaved and were a pleasure to be around. I also know that the new friendships formed will last for years to come.

**Mr G Hughes, Trip Leader**





# Trips 2020



## New York

**Dates:** Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2020

**Cost:** £900

**Year Group:** 10

### **Payment Plan**

- Deposit - £300 to be received by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment - £150 by Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019
- 3<sup>rd</sup> instalment - £150 by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019
- 4<sup>th</sup> instalment - £100 by Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- 5<sup>th</sup> instalment - £100 by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019
- Final instalment - £100 no later than Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019

## Ski

**Dates:** Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020

**Cost:** £900

**Year Group:** 8, 9 & 10

### **Payment Plan**

- Deposit £200 to be received by Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019
- 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment - £150 by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019
- 3<sup>rd</sup> instalment - £150 by Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- 4<sup>th</sup> instalment - £150 by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019
- 5<sup>th</sup> instalment - £150 by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019
- Final instalment - £100 no later than Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019

## Battlefields

**Dates:** Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April to Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020

**Cost:** £300

**Year Group:** 9 & 10

### **Payment Plan**

- Deposit - £100 to be received no later than 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019
- 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment - £50 by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019
- 3<sup>rd</sup> instalment - £50 by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- 4<sup>th</sup> instalment - £50 by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019
- Final instalment - £50 no later than Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019

## Ardèche

**Dates:** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**Cost:** £650

**Year Group:** 8 & 9

### **Payment Plan**

- Deposit £200 to be received by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment £100 by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019
- 3<sup>rd</sup> instalment £100 by Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- 4<sup>th</sup> instalment £100 by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019
- 5<sup>th</sup> instalment £100 Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019
- Final instalment £50 no later than Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

## Naples

**Dates:** Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May to Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**Cost:** £650

**Year Group:** 10

### **Payment Plan**

- Deposit £250 to be received by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment - £100 by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019
- 3<sup>rd</sup> instalment - £75 by Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- 4<sup>th</sup> instalment - £75 by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019
- 5<sup>th</sup> instalment - £75 by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019
- Final instalment - £75 no later than Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

## Madrid

**Dates:** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2020

**Cost:** £500

**Year Group:** 9 & 10

### **Payment Plan**

- Deposit £200 to be received by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment - £60 by Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019
- 3<sup>rd</sup> instalment - £60 by Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- 4<sup>th</sup> instalment - £60 by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019
- 5<sup>th</sup> instalment - £60 by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019
- Final instalment £60 no later than 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

