



Stewards Academy

Residential Trips 2018



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 and skiing in Altenmarkt. 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 and Mr Trearmer 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. Always seeking further opportunities to expand our International Dimension work, Mr Hickman, Mr King and Miss Rafferty are also exploring additional residential trips for the next couple of years including Naples, a trip to the Battlefields and Madrid. Watch out for more information!

Miss Johnson, Assistant Headteacher: School Organisation and Enrichment





New York 2018



Stewards Academy's annual trip to New York was an eventful one this year. After a 6am 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 -5.

We awoke on the first morning for an exciting, busy day. After our traditional breakfast at a local Deli we jumped on the subway uptown to 72nd Street. We took the short walk to Central Park, stopping at the Dakota Building and the Strawberry Fields Memorial for John Lennon. We walked through the park, stopping at the Bethesda Fountain for our traditional group photo. It is a shame that it is winter and the fountain is switched off at this time of year. From the fountain we headed to the Wollman Rink, better known as the Ice-skating rink from Home Alone 2. The majority of the pupils took part in ice-skating with the rest enjoying the hot chocolate and cakes from the café. Ms Dangerfield and Ms McDevitt seemed to enjoy the ice just as much as the pupils, even if they had to stop to pick Evan Sontag up every five minutes! After skating, we left for the bus depot. We took over a public bus with 42 pupils and 5 staff to get to the bargains at the outlet mall in Jersey. With money burning a hole in their pockets, 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 allowed 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 peoples' 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 14th Street. Here we climbed the steps of the disused railway that has now been transformed in to a walking park known as the High Line. We left the High Line and took the short walk to Chelsea Pier for Baseball batting cages and bowling which allowed pupils to relax and unwind after a busy day on their feet.



New York 2018



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. Especially when Ms McDevitt spilt her drink all over Mr Davies lap! Pupils enjoyed diner type food and milkshakes before the last walk of the day back to the hotel ready to go to bed.

Our last day in New York meant an early start again as cases had to 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, Mrs Ellis and Ms McDevitt. 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; then a walk along 5th Avenue. We didn't have long on 5th Avenue as the shops are expensive and we needed to head back to the hotel. We did manage to stop at Trump Tower, which since my last visit now has a lot more security. The pupils enjoyed having their picture taken with the armed police officer in full SWAT gear. We all jumped in New York yellow taxis to heads back to 34th Street for the last bit of shopping.



The flight home was as smooth sailing as the flight out. Most people slept for the majority of the flight which was only 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.

Mr Harman, Trip Leader





Ski Trip - Altenmarkt, Austria 2018



We departed for our annual ski trip (fifth trip to date) in high spirits. There were 43 pupils across years 8,9 and 10 accompanied by six members of staff: Mr Sanders and Mr Trearmer the trip leaders, Mr Preece returning for his fourth trip, alongside Mrs Hunt, Miss Tidmas and Miss Lucas, all of whom were set to embark on their first skiing adventure with the school.

We arrived at our crossing nice and early, giving staff and pupils a chance to explore the boat or in some cases the toilets as the sea sickness took full effect - poor Miss Lucas struggling more than most.

We travelled through the night and what better way to integrate yourselves 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. We dropped our bags off in our rooms and set off to get 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 quick quiz organised by our ski rep, Martyn. Although close, Team SP 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 (although that was the plan), 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, 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 mountains of Austria.

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!





Ski Trip - Altenmarkt, Austria 2018



Each evening we had a traditional three 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 five days of amazing skiing, entertainment and very changeable weather, it was time to bid farewell to Austria for 2018. 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 one of our final dinners 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 life time memories - hope to see some of you back next year.

Mr Sanders

SKI TRIP AWARDS:

Quote of the week: 'Is Bon Jovi a type of food?' **Lennon Hickey**

Fall of the week: Unable to stop on his first day of skiing, Donald crashed into a family, followed by tables and chairs. **Donald Okafor**

Skier of the week: Huge progress throughout the week. **Josh Tant**

Oh dear! of the week: Leaving his helmet, gloves and goggles in a shop when resetting his bindings. Then forgetting he had them; then trying to commander a stranger, only to remember he had left his in the shop! **Louis Davy**

Star of the week: Skiing all week with a broken toe. **Erika Lomo**

Mr Treamer's Snow Plough of the week: Consistently snow ploughing throughout the week. **Liam Holt**



Weymouth 2018



On the 14th May we set off on the M25 for our four hour journey to Weymouth. We arrived at the 45 acre PGL site overlooking the picturesque Chessil Bay.

Our first day saw us tackle a water activity. We visited the Olympic Sailing venue at Portland Bay where we built rafts and sailed into the Weymouth Sea. It's safe to say we all got wet!

Throughout the week the students participated in a wide variety of activities: Keelboat Sailing, Buggy Build, Beach Walk, Zip Wire, Abseiling, Mountain Biking, Archery, Rifle Shooting, Climbing and Fencing. The weather on the trip was fantastic, which allowed us to relax in the evening with a camp fire and lots of different games.

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 pupils were fantastic on the trip!

The final day allowed us to have an ice cream whilst soaking up the sun. A perfect way to celebrate a successful trip.

Mr S Locke





Weymouth 2018





Weymouth 2018





Ardèche 2018



What a wonderful trip! It started on Saturday 19th May, leaving the school at 21:30, which meant that no one was going to get any sleep! It took 16 hours, and a surprisingly smooth ferry journey, to get to our destination. It was hot, sunny and not a cloud in the sky...It was perfect! The students got straight into the river to do their first activity.



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.



The first morning consisted of High Ropes, Jacob's ladder, and Archery. 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.





Ardèche 2018



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 second day was another fun packed day on site. Activities included Mountain biking, Raft building, High ropes and Kayaking.



Wednesday 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 canyon on a zip wire. A huge congratulation's to everyone as getting down the canyon was certainly one big challenge, ESPECIALLY when a thunderstorm was above our heads, and the hailstones were the size of golf balls!!!





Ardèche 2018



Thursday and Friday was the main event - The Ardèche River decent. 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, hot chocolate, and a massive BBQ. The students then slept under the stars in just their sleeping bags. Day one included rock jumping, capsizing, and general water fights. Day two consisted of some fast flowing rapids, rock jumping and a little bit of sun bathing as it was so hot.



On our return from the Ardèche, students continued to build up confidence, problem solve and have lots of fun together. I would like to congratulate so many of you for overcoming all your fears. It's amazing to see someone start off saying they can't do it, to saying they don't want to get off the river!!!

I would like to thank all the students, Miss J Morley, Mr S Waters and Mrs M Coates 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.

Thank you!

Mr G Hughes, Trip Leader





Trips 2019



New York

Dates: Wednesday 13th to Sunday 17th February 2019

Cost: £900

Year Group: 10

Payment Plan

- £300 non-returnable deposit to secure a place no later than Monday 30th April 2018
- A 2nd payment of £150 to be paid by Thursday 31st May 2018
- A 3rd payment of £150 to be paid by Saturday 30th June 2018
- A 4th payment of £150 to be paid by Sunday 30th September 2018
- The balance of £150 to be paid no later than Wednesday 31st October 2018

Ski

Dates: Friday 28th March to Friday 5th April 2019

Cost: £915

Year Group: 8,9 & 10

Payment Plan

- £200 non-returnable deposit to secure a place no later than Friday 27th April 2018
- A 2nd payment of £150 to be paid by Friday 8th June 2018
- A 3rd payment of £150 to be paid by Friday 6th July 2018
- A 4th payment of £150 to be paid by Friday 28th September 2018
- A 5th payment of £150 to be paid by Friday 2nd November 2018
- The balance of £115 to be paid by Friday 7th December 2018

Weymouth

Dates: Monday 13th to Friday 17th May 2019

Cost: £430

Year Group: 7

Payment Plan

- £150 non-returnable deposit to secure a place no later than Monday 24th September 2018
- A 2nd payment of £100 to be paid by Wednesday 31st October 2018
- A 3rd payment of £100 to be paid Friday 30th November 2018
- The balance of £80 to be paid no later than Thursday 31st January 2019

Ardèche

Dates: Saturday 18th May to Sunday 26th May 2019

Cost: £640

Year Groups: 8 & 9

Payment Plan

- £150 non-returnable deposit to secure a place no later than Friday 23rd March 2018
- A 2nd payment of £100 to be paid by Thursday 31st May 2018
- A 3rd payment of £100 to be paid by Saturday 30th June 2018
- A 4th payment of £100 to be paid by Friday 28th September 2018
- A 5th payment of £100 to be paid by Wednesday 31st October 2018
- The balance of £90 to be paid no later than Friday 30th November 2018