

St Mary's CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr S Smith



September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Kings Norton Consortium Ski Trip - March 2020

For a number of years now, we have worked with local primary schools from the Kings Norton Consortium of Schools to provide the opportunity for pupils in Year 5 and 6 to participate in a ski trip. These have taken place every two years and this year's trip was a huge success with a total 35 children (including pupils from St Mary's) learning to ski in the resort of Crans Montana, Switzerland. Planning for the next trip from **14th to 21st March 2020** is now underway with pupils in the **current Year 4 and Year 5 classes** being eligible to take part.

The ski trip will return to Crans Montana, travelling with The Ski Company - an established schools ski travel company that is ABTA protected. A member of staff from St Mary's will be accompanying the party along with staff from the other schools who are taking part, this will ensure a ratio of one adult to every ten pupils. The leaders of the visit will be Mrs Diana James, formerly Head teacher of Cotteridge Primary School and Mr Doug Ashton, a teacher from Kings Norton Primary School - both have led the previous visits that have taken place and are highly experienced.

The cost (payable directly to The Ski Company) is £795, and this includes:

- Return flights – Birmingham to Geneva
- Transfers to and from the resort
- Full accommodation and meals in resort
- Hire of skis, ski boots and ski helmet
- 6 days x 5 hours of ski lessons (30 hours in total)
- Lift pass
- Winter sports insurance
- Evening entertainments programme

There are also some additional costs where your child will need:

- A passport
- Ski clothing
- Pocket money – maximum £30 to be paid in cash to schools February 2020
- £10-£12 for a ski lesson at The Ackers prior to the visit

Information about this trip, including payment costs, can be found on The Ski Company website:

[www.skicompany.net/school-skiing/2020/Kings Norton Consortium](http://www.skicompany.net/school-skiing/2020/Kings-Norton-Consortium). A booking form will be going online from Thursday 27th September 2018.

If you would like your son or daughter to be participate in this trip, please complete the Kings Norton Consortium Ski Trip form online. Alternatively, collect a form from our school reception (this is similar to the

form available online) and return to the school by Tuesday 16th October, we will then forward it to The Ski Company on your behalf.

The form requires bank details, if this is a direct debit for a joint account - both signatures are needed. All payments for the cost of the trip are paid direct to The Ski Company and not the school.

PLEASE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS VERY CAREFULLY, ESPECIALLY THE INFORMATION ON CANCELLATION at www.skicompany.net.

If you have any questions about any aspect of this trip, please contact us - particularly if you have any concerns about your child's capacity to be away from home for an extended period of time or an aspect of their medical history which may be important to discuss.

What happens once you have paid your deposit:

- The Ski Company will inform the primary schools of confirmed bookings.
- Direct debits will be taken monthly – 1st of the month, starting in November 2018, with the final payment being on February 1st 2020.
- September/October 2019 – parent and pupils meeting to meet the staff on the trip, information about essential ski clothing, information about the ski resort and ski lessons. Opportunity for parents to ask questions about the forthcoming trip.
- February 2020 – final meeting for parents and pupils to discuss travel arrangements, and answer any questions.

What next:

- Complete the online form or obtain a paper copy of the form from school and return to us by Tuesday 16th October (schools will send the form to The Ski Company by Friday 19th October)

Please note:

Enter your child's full name as shown on their passport – if you do not have a passport, please enter name as shown on birth certificate – as this document will be used when applying for a passport. This information is used when booking your child's flight so must be accurate. Also include height and shoe size – we know this will change before we travel, but gives the ski company an overview of equipment needed.

If you would like to see photos of this year's trip for a taste of the experience that the children enjoyed, please go to Twitter: @KNPrimarySki2018

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Smith
Head teacher