



JAMES GILLESPIE'S HIGH SCHOOL

HEAD TEACHER/CEANNARD: Donald J Macdonald MBA, BSc, SQH

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Dear Parent / Carer

South Africa Trip - February 2018

We are currently in the process of arranging our annual visit to Dloko & Zwelibanzi High School, Umlazi, Durban, with our S6 students and staff for February 2018. This trip is hugely successful and we expect that there will be a number of the current S5 who are looking forward to going in 2018.

The trip in 2018 will again be during the February break. Depending on availability and costings the trip may overlap the holidays by a day or so. **The cost of this trip will be approx. £1500, which includes flights, accommodation, evening meals, transfers, hoodies, insurance and coach travel in Durban and to the airport in Scotland.** This is a superb experience and I urge you to give this serious consideration with your son/ daughter.

In previous years parents have found it financially advantageous to start paying for the trip early, the full balance would be payable by **30 October 2017**. So that we can facilitate this and also get an idea of the number of pupils that would like to participate, we are requesting an initial deposit of **£300** to be paid by **Tuesday 2nd May 2017**. Final confirmation of participation is not required until the October break in 2017, as this is when final names are submitted to our travel agent. Until this time your deposit can be refunded should you wish for your son/daughter to withdraw.

I understand that this is a considerable amount of money and would suggest that it should be paid in instalments by cheque. (Please ensure students name on reverse of cheque).

Please do not send cash into school.

2nd May 2017	£300 deposit
1st June 2017	£300
16 August 2017	£300
25 September 2017	£300 *Confirm attendance on the trip
30th October 2017	£300 *Final balance required

Please pass payments to Mrs Sinclair, Classroom Assistant Office, Bruntsfield House (not the school office or Group Leaders).

Finally, we will be hosting an information evening on **Thursday 20 April at 6pm in the Library at the Malala Building** for the parents/carers of any pupil who is interested in attending the trip in February 2018. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information about the objectives and structure of the project, opportunities that participating in the trip will provide to our S6 students, and what is expected of them if they do decide to sign up for the trip.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

Mr I Porter
Depute Headteacher and SA 2018 Group Leader