Dear Parent/Carer 5 September 2016

2016-17 GERMAN CULTURAL YOUTH EXCHANGE/SKI TRIP – TAUNTON/IMMENSTADT

Firstly, thank you very much for enabling your son/daughter to take part in the German exchange 2016-17. We have 21 German students arriving on Friday (!), so thank you to all families who have offered to entertain our German guests. There is a list of visits attached. English students will not accompany their partners on the trips during the school week.

German incoming visit

The German group will arrive in Somerset on the evening of Friday 9 September 2016 (ETA 17.00) and leave on the morning of Saturday 17 September 2016 (meet at Tangier car park at 08.00). The Castle School assures a week day programme, visiting parts of Somerset and Devon but we do not organise evening gatherings. In previous years, parents have organised cinema/bowling trips, but we have found that flexibility or 'down-time' is often necessary for the German students. The English families entertain their guests over the first weekend and often join forces to do so. Each weekday morning the German guest will be collected from school for the day's outing and will be returned at the end of the afternoon. (Meeting at the library by 08.30 and being picked up from SCAT layby at 17.00)

Payments and DBS clearance

Thank you all for payments made so far. Please could you take any outstanding payments for July/September to the finance office with your payment card and final payment is to be made by the end of October. **DBS forms** should now be handed in to the finance office if not already done so!

Farewell evening

We are planning a gathering of all partners and their families at the end of the visit on Friday 16 September. This will be a 'farewell disco/picnic' in the school hall from 6.30-8.30pm and will provide a chance for everyone to get together and have some fun! Please could every family bring food for their own table? Due to food allergies, it is not possible to have a buffet-style evening.

Contacts

As requested, here is a list of contact details, for you all to keep in touch. I have not arranged cinema or bowling, but please feel free to do so together.

Most importantly I can be contacted on the school telephone number during the day 01823 274073 or on the school mobile number in the evenings 07775 323241.

We are grateful for your support, we find that relationships fostered during such exchange visits often form long-lasting friendships (and the possibility of family visits to the beautiful mountainous ski region of southern Germany)! I look forward to seeing you on Friday evening at Tangier car park.

Yours sincerely

Ceri Jones