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Dear Parent/Carer

Ski Trip – Key Updates

Thank you to everyone who attended last week's meeting. For those unable to join, please find the key updates below. Thanks to everyone who has returned the consent form. If you have still to return the form for your pupil then please do so ASAP.

Countdown to Sestriere

We are now just over 50 days away from our exciting trip to Sestriere, Italy! We're looking forward to a fantastic experience on the slopes.

Departure Information

- Date: Saturday, 10th January 2026
- Please note: Times may change closer to departure due to the new UK Entry/Exit System. We will inform parents and pupils immediately if adjustments are required.

Pick-Up Points

- Breadalbane Academy: Arrive at 8:15 AM. Coach departs promptly at 8:45 AM.
- Birnam Hotel: Arrive by 8:45 AM.

Dover Ferry Crossing

- Ferry: P&O crossing at 23:15 from Dover to Calais.
- All pupils will go through the new UK Entry/Exit system involving biometrics and border checks. They may be asked questions such as:
    - What is the purpose of your visit?
    - Where will you be staying?
    - How long do you plan to stay?
    - Do you have sufficient funds for your stay?
    - What is your nationality?
    - Have you visited the Schengen Area before?
    - Can you provide proof of onward travel?

We will prepare pupils for these questions before departure.

Money

- **UK Pounds:** For food during travel through the UK (breaks, lunch, dinner). Pupils may bring a packed meal if preferred.
- **Euros:** For breakfast and lunch while traveling through France. The first included meal is **Sunday evening dinner**.
- In Italy, all meals are included. For extras (hot chocolate, snacks, souvenirs), **€15 per day** is more than enough.
- On the return journey, pupils will need Euros for breakfast in France and UK Pounds for lunch/dinner in the UK.

Arrival in Sestriere

- Expected arrival: Mid-afternoon, hotel check-in at 4 PM.
- Ski and boot fitting will be undertaken on arrival. Pupils **must have ski socks in hand luggage**.

Packing Checklist

Pupils may bring two bags:

- Hold Luggage: Approx. 60–80 litres
- Hand Luggage: e.g. school bag

Hand Luggage Essentials

- **Passport and GHIC card**
- Euros (max €15/day), UK Pounds
- Snacks, water bottle
- Travel pillow, blanket/sleeping bag
- Freshening-up kit (toothbrush, underwear)
- Entertainment (book, games, DVDs)
- Mobile phone, charger, headphones
- Medication, tissues
- **Ski Socks**

Hold Luggage Essentials

- Ski jacket
- Salopettes
- Thermal layers
- Micro-fleece/jumper
- Ski socks
- Goggles, Sunglasses
- Buff/snood
- T-shirts
- Suncream – Factor 50
- Lip Balm
- Toiletries, towel
- Jeans/trousers (max 2),
- Jumpers/hoodies (max 2)
- Underwear, socks,
- Hat
- Pyjamas
- Travel adapter
- Trainers/Boots for walking in Sestriere

Return Journey

- Depart Sestriere: **Friday 16th January, 8:30 PM**
- Ferry: DFDS crossing at **12:50**, arriving Dover **13:20 UK time**
- Estimated return to Breadalbane Academy: **Sunday 18th January, 01:50 AM**
- Pupils will keep in touch during the journey for accurate timings, including Birnam drop-off.

Contact During the Trip

Pupils will be busy, so please don't worry if they don't contact you regularly. Updates will be posted on the School Facebook and Instagram pages.

If you need to share sensitive news, please contact the school first so we can support your child appropriately.

If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

Mr Douglas
PT Physical Education and Outdoor Learning