



Bishop Wordsworth's School

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Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

23 November 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians

2017 Rugby Tour

I wanted to write to you to give an update on the tour. The figures are set at 37 players and 5 staff with Mr Oldham joining us, who I know is looking forward to working with the Y12 boys again after last season.

Below are our current flight plans and I do not foresee these changing:

Main International flights with Cathay Pacific:

CX 254 19 JUL 3 LHR HKG 2220 1710+1

CX 103 22 JUL 6 HKG CNS 2120 0630+1

CX 100 03 AUG 4 SYD HKG 1405 2135

CX 251 03 AUG 4 HKG LHR 2355 0540+1

Domestic flights with Virgin Australia

Date	Depart/Arrive	Flights	Times
27 Jul 17	Whitsunday Coast / Brisbane	VA1118	1525
31 Jul 17	Brisbane / Sydney	VA950	1305

We have also confirmed fixtures with The Cathedral School in Townsville and Kings School in Sydney, both of whom will be touring the UK in September and December 2017 respectively and I am pleased to say intend to stay with and play us during their visit. We have also confirmed a fixture against a Hong Kong invitational side and also Sedbergh, one of the premier rugby schools in this country who are out there at the same time.

I wanted to take a moment also to formally thank the parents and boys who have made huge efforts to contribute to the squads fund raising. With some hugely successful events including a fashion show and wine tasting, the Christmas market stall, match day refreshments, bag packing and individual sponsors we are well on our way to our initial target of £10,000. With more bag packing and other events in the pipeline there is more to come in, but at the moment less a few sponsors, and the Christmas stall we are at £5000ish profit.



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However due to Brexit and the fall of the pound against the Australian dollar our cost to the tour company has increased by £145 per head which although a frustrating blow, is one of those things we have a contingency pot for. Nonetheless highly disappointing. To alleviate part of the problem the staff have committed to raising their own individual sponsors to go along with the boys and I will be speaking to the boys again regarding their efforts to ensure we have plenty in the 'extras pot'.

Please could I also remind you that the final balance for the trip is due by the 28 February 2017.

With GCSE prelims upon us shortly and A level prelims after Christmas the boys attentions I am sure are turning toward their studies as well as the final few games of the season. Once we return in the New Year it will be 6 months until we depart and so time for a concerted effort to increase the fundraising pot.

Thank you again to all those who have helped in some way thus far. If anyone has any ideas or potential sponsors please do get in touch. I hope you enjoy the final throws of the regular season, fingers crossed the seniors will still be going strong on the other side of Christmas too.

Best wishes

Richard Demain-Griffiths
Director of Sport