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Dear Parents/Guardians

'Finding our place in History (Berlin)'

I have recently been made aware of an opportunity through UK-German Connections for pupils to apply for a cultural 3-day seminar, taking place in Germany during half-term, between Friday 1 and Sunday 3 June. This is a fully-funded opportunity (flights, full board and lodging etc.) though boys would be expected to travel to the airport independently of the organised arrangements (travel costs to be refunded afterwards).

'Finding Our Place in History' is a seminar which will explore themes such as history, identity and diversity, tolerance and reconciliation. 'The House by the Lake' by Thomas Harding tells the fascinating journeys of several German families, including his own, living on the fringes of Berlin. Their stories are a real-life representation of 20th-century German history and will form the basis of the seminar.

During the weekend, participants will have the opportunity to visit the House by the Lake itself and learn about its history. Alongside this, they will take part in workshops, discussions and debates, with a focus on building a stronger future together. There also appears to be a trip to a Berlin museum scheduled.

While this does not link directly with the GCSE curriculum we are following, it might be an opportunity to develop pupils' cultural and historical awareness – and meet other young people from the UK and Germany. This event is being organised by UK-German Connection, rather than the school and any questions should be put directly to them. If you are interested, please see the link below for further information. The deadline for online applications is 16 April 2018 (midday). Should any BWS pupils be successful in their application, UK-German Connections have agreed that BWS can provide references at that point, due to term dates not allowing this before.

<http://www.ukgermanconnection.org/our-place-history>

Best wishes

Mrs Louise Drummond
German Teacher