

CLAVERHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Principal: P. Swatton, B.Eng (Hons)

5 December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

2020 SKI TRIP: Champoluc - Italy

We are proposing to run the 2020 Claverham Ski Trip to the Italian resort of Champoluc, part of the acclaimed Monterosa ski area, during the February half term. We will travel with the well-established ABTA bonded tour company 'Skiz', who were shortlisted in the 'Best Specialist Ski Tour Operator' category in the World Ski Awards for 2015. This will be the fifth time using 'Skiz', mainly because of the high quality of service and attention to detail we have experienced in the past.



Champoluc is the largest resort in the Monterosa region, a huge ski area also known as Italy's very own "Three Valleys". Surrounded by wooded terrain and based at one end of the Monterosa ski area, Champoluc offers spectacular views of the region's dramatic glaciers and peaks. We will have the opportunity to access the whole Monterosa circuit; renowned in particular for its uncrowded slopes. The village itself is at 1579m and the area provides skiing to over 2900m.

We will stay in the nearby village of Brusson at the three star Hotel Du Foyer, which is just a short coach drive away from the Champoluc lift system and also has a small ski lift system 50m behind the hotel – perfect for the first 2 days. Pupils will stay in mostly 2-3 bedded en-suite rooms. Full board accommodation is provided, with hot lunches being taken at mountain restaurants between ski sessions. Evening activities will depend on those available at the time, but are likely to include floodlit cross-country skiing, ice skating and a quiz/pizza evening in a restaurant up the mountain.

We expect to leave Claverham at around 2pm on **Saturday 15th February 2020**, in order to make an early evening ferry crossing. Travelling through the night we would hope to arrive in Champoluc at around 10am on Sunday. After transfer up to the hotel, lunch and the collection and fitting of ski equipment, pupils will then have their first ski session that afternoon.

Over the next five days pupils will receive a full five hours of tuition each day from the local ski school, with pupils being placed in groups according to their ability and previous skiing experience.

We will leave the resort after our evening meal on the Friday and expect to be back at Claverham early on the morning of **Saturday 22nd February 2020**.

The complete package includes:

- Return coach and ferry travel
- Full board accommodation
- 5 1/2 day lift pass
- 5 hours ski tuition per day
- Ski and boot hire
- Full ski insurance with zero 'excess'
- Full evening entertainment programme

The total price for this trip will be **£1,060**. This includes helmet hire. It is compulsory for all pupils to wear ski helmets. The only other additional cost will be personal spending money.



Payment Schedule:

Initial deposit (14 January 2019)	£125	
1st payment (18 February 2019)	£95	
2nd payment (18 March 2019)	£95	
3rd payment (15 April 2019)	£95	
4th payment (20 May 2019)	£95	
5th payment (17 June 2019)	£95	
6th payment (15 July 2019)	£95	
7th payment (19 August 2019)	£95	
8th payment (16 September 2019)	£95	
9th payment (14 October 2019)	£95	
10th payment (18 November 2019)	£80	please see * below

If you would like your son/daughter to take part in this trip, please return the reply slip below as soon as possible. As soon as the trip is confirmed with the tour operator, pupils will be issued with a payment sheet which will record each of their monthly payments and the initial deposit will then be due. We will make the trip available on your ParentPay account and payments should be made this way.

There are a limited number of places available and these are only offered to pupils with excellent behaviour and attendance records. Please note that pupils will need their own passport to take part in this trip.

It is hoped that all pupils involved in the trip will be able to ski a significant proportion of the resort slopes by the end of the week, giving them a real sense of achievement. Experience from recent years has shown that pupils make much faster progress during their ski trip if they have learned the basics of putting on boots and skis, stopping, turning and using a drag lift at the dry ski centre at Knockhatch. Pupils who have never skied before are therefore **strongly advised** to take part in at least **three** of our evening dry ski trips before February 2020. The remaining trip for this school year is scheduled for 24th January, and then three more in Autumn 2019. Pupils should see Mrs Harley to book places as soon as each trip is announced.

An information evening for parents and pupils will be arranged early in the spring term of 2020.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Swatton & Mr Ockmore (Party Leaders)

The Small Print!

Once the final booking has been confirmed the **first three payments are then non-returnable**. Should you later, **for any reason**, have to withdraw your son/daughter from the trip any refund will have to be sought under the terms of the travel insurance policy, unless another suitable pupil can take up the vacant place. This may mean, under certain circumstances, you may not get your money back.

* If you have problems keeping to the payment schedule it is essential that you let us know as soon as possible. The final payment **must** be made by the end of November 2019. Failure to do so could result in an additional charge being made.

Skiing is a physical activity and pupils will need a reasonable level of fitness if they are to get the most out of this trip. We will contact parents if there are any concerns regarding an individual's health/fitness, particularly if this is indicated through poor school attendance.

Pupil behaviour on school trips

It is most important that pupils recognise that this is a Claverham Community College trip and a high standard of discipline and behaviour will be expected at all times.

In view of the heavy responsibility now placed in law on teachers taking children on school trips, it is absolutely essential that staff are confident that pupils can always be relied upon to behave in a sensible and responsible manner.

If, before the date of departure, we have reason to believe that a pupil may possibly not be relied upon to behave in an appropriate way at all times, then we reserve the right to withdraw his/her place on this trip. In these circumstances money paid by you and held by the school will be refunded. However, money already paid to the travel company by way of non-returnable deposits will be lost.

CLAVERHAM SKI TRIP FEBRUARY 2020: CHAMPOLUC, ITALY

(Please return this reply slip to the Finance Office asap)

Pupil's Name Yr Group..... Tutor Group.....
(AS SHOWN ON PASSPORT or BIRTH CERTIFICATE – ANY LATER CHANGES MAY INCUR CHARGES)

I would like my child to be included on the Claverham Ski Trip to Champoluc during February half-term 2020 at a total cost of **£1,060**. I have read and accept the payment arrangements. I understand that my child will require their own passport for this trip.

I also understand that my child's details will be shared with the travel company for ferry and hotel bookings, only as necessary, and with ESCC for insurance purposes.

Previous skiing experience (please):

None Dry skiing (lessons) Dry skiing (free skiing) Snow skiing (no. weeks:)

Signed (Parent/Guardian) Date.....