



Saint Olave's Grammar School

London 1571

Acting Headmaster: Andrew Rees B.Sc.

SVE/JBW/26 June 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 visit to Florida, Easter 2019

I am delighted to launch the Year 9 visit to Florida for Easter 2019, from Monday 8th to Monday 14th April 2019 (first half of Easter holiday). The majority of the first day will be spent travelling and settling in at our 3-star, half-board accommodation, in Orlando. Students are provided with quad rooms (2 queen sized beds).



Day 2 will be spent at **Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex**, an educational centre which allows students to explore and tour NASA areas and interact with shows and exhibits. The boys will view ten-storey high rockets from all eras of space exploration in the Rocket Garden, walk through a full-size space shuttle mock-up, see 3D-IMAX space films on gigantic five-storey screens, and see an actual Gemini program capsule as well as the space shuttle Atlantis on display. The day will also include a 90 minute bus tour to see where new rockets are constructed as well as the Saturn V rocket and a number of historic and active launch pads.

The boys will return to **Cape Canaveral for a ½ day of astronaut training**. *Astronaut Training Experience (ATX)* is the ultimate program providing students with a hands-on, interdisciplinary look at science and technology through workshops and simulators. In addition to authentic mission training on the Multi-Axis Trainer and the Micro-Gravity Wall, trainees will also perform a real space shuttle mission at mission control and space shuttle simulations and meet a real veteran NASA astronaut!



On day 4, the boys will arrive at Universal's Islands of Adventure before the gates open and spend 3 hours discovering, first hand, the science and technology involved in creating the world's most technologically advanced theme park. The rest of the day will be spent exploring this thrilling theme park, comprised of 5 separate themed islands, as well as Harry Potter World!

The 5th day will be spent at Universal Studios Orlando, where the students will be able to enjoy rides such as Rip Ride Rockit, Revenge of the Mummy and Harry Potter and the Escape from Gringotts.





For one day, we will change the pace and spend a day *very* close to nature, heading West to **snorkel with Manatees in Crystal River, on the Gulf Coast**. These placid creatures are large (10ft, fully grown), slow-moving animals that frequent coastal waters and rivers. They eat water grasses, weeds, and algae. The day will offer the chance to see ospreys, sea turtles, fish and other tropical wildlife in their natural habitat, as well as hear about some of the steps local communities are taking to protect their local environment in a sustainable manner. This is an early morning activity so we should be able to take in some retail therapy in the afternoon. On previous trips we have visited the Mall at Millenia. It may also be possible to fit in a visit to Cocoa Beach. If we do, we will allow

swimming in the sea under controlled conditions and only if a lifeguard is on duty.

The last day in Orlando, 13th April, will be spent packing up and travelling. We will travel overnight, therefore landing back in the UK on the morning of 14th April. The order of excursions is subject to change, dependent on availability.

The total cost of this trip will be £2,000. This price includes return coach travel between school and the airport, flights, accommodation (6 nights, half-board), school travel insurance, all destination coach travel and all excursions detailed above. The price does *not* include spending money for lunches. The boys will also need to arrange their own ESTA (visa waiver program, if UK passport holder) or visa (B2). I acknowledge that this is a large investment to make so payment can be made in instalments as follows:

Deadline	Payment	Amount	Total paid
4 th July 2018	Deposit (non-refundable, required to secure flights & accom.)	£300	£300
16 th July 2018	Instalment 2	£300	£600
13 th Aug 2018	Instalment 3	£300	£900
10 th Sept 2018	Instalment 4	£300	£1200
8 th Oct 2018	Instalment 5	£300	£1500
12 th Nov 2018	Instalment 6	£300	£1800
17 th Dec 2018	Instalment 7	£200	£2000

In the unlikely event of a surcharge being applied, the company will inform the school before the initial payment is due. Payment must be made using the electronic payment system *sQuid*. The first instalment (deposit) is required by the travel company. Any queries related to payment should be emailed to financeoffice@saintolaves.net.

Should your son need to withdraw from the trip, please be aware that, since the deposit is necessary for our travel company to secure flights and accommodation, we will only be able to offer a refund if another student can be found to fill the vacancy.

If you would like your son to take part in this trip then please complete the attached reply slip. Please pay the deposit via *sQuid* and provide a scan of the photo page of your son's passport. If the passport is due to expire before April 2019, we would still appreciate a copy at this stage. All documentation should be clearly marked "NASA 2019" and passed to Jane Wells, our trips administrator, in the finance office, also at: jwells@saintolaves.net.

There will be a briefing for parents and students before the visit, further details will be sent out nearer the time. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information about our visit.

Yours faithfully

Miss S Esswood
Trip Leader

To be returned to Mrs J Wells (Room 12) by Monday 4th July 2018.

NASA 2019

Student's name _____ Form _____

- I would like my son to go on the Florida 2019 visit. I have paid the £300 non-refundable deposit via sQuid.
- I agree to pay all subsequent instalments no later than the dates listed.
- I enclose (or have emailed to jwells@saintolaves.net) a copy of the details page of my son's passport.

Signed _____ Parent/Carer Date _____