

Dear Parents,

We hope your child is getting excited about the upcoming Nepal trip!

We have booked the flights and are flying with Etihad, departing Friday 17th February 1400 and arriving in Kathmandu at 1945, on flight EY292. We return on Monday 27th February leaving Kathmandu at 1655 and landing in Abu Dhabi at 2030 on flight EY291.

We will provide a bus to the airport for the students and will be leaving AAESS car park at 9am on Friday 17th February. We expect the students to be punctual.

We will provide a bus back to school on the 27th and expect to arrive back by about 11pm although we will ask your child to call you as we approach as it is dependent on time taken to clear customs at the airport. We would expect all students to be in school on Tuesday 28th.

Due to the fact this coming weekend (20th and 21st) is now clashing with the Year 11 mock exams which have been brought forward, and real Year 12/13 exams several parents have raised concerns that this is not an appropriate weekend to be going out on the practice expedition. This is something beyond my control and I will need to look at the calendar to find an alternative weekend that does not clash with other events. I will inform all students of this ASAP.

In preparation for the Nepal trip we are planning some practice walks in the local area. Firstly to ensure boots are worn in so that we don't have any problems once in Nepal and also for the students to get an idea of distances they can expect to cover. We also need to assess the student's fitness prior to our arrival in Nepal. We would expect all students to take part in these walks as preparation.

The walks will be twice around the Palm Resort which is approximately 10km (meeting at the car park at the side of the rugby club). The dates for these walks are:

Tuesday 17th January 5pm – 7pm (Oasis living magazine will be taking a photo on this date for an article on the trip for the February edition)

Tuesday 24th January 5pm – 7pm

Tuesday 31st January 5pm – 7pm

Tuesday 7th February 5pm – 7pm

Tuesday 14th February 5pm – 7pm

We also aim to do a walk up a safe route (not the road) of Jebal Hafeet. Provisionally this is planned for **Saturday 4th February at 7am** (this is subject to confirmation with Mr Camp).

The students will also be expected to help fundraise for the orphanage at the arts and craft fair on Saturday 11th February.

May we also remind you the final payments are due on the 2nd February. If you could ensure this is settled ASAP it will allow us to pay the company in Nepal.

If you need any information in the run up to the trip you can contact myself, or Miss Hamer on 0501375529 or 0503349757 respectively.

During the trip we will hope to email you progress (depending on internet connection at various sites) and these will be coming from nicola_hamer@hotmail.com please email this address anytime if you require any information, we will reply as soon as we get internet access.

Thank you for your support for this venture.

Sara Donovan
Head of Whole School PE
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

Nicola Hamer
Head of Business and Economics