



NOTRE DAME COLLEGE

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25 November 2019

Student Contact Mail Name
Student Contact Address Full

Dear Student Contact Mail Salutation

We would like to personally congratulate your child on their selection to go on an Immersion Trip in 2020!! This will possibly be the most exciting and challenging thing they will have undertaken to date.

We have recently completed the process of selecting staff members to accompany the students; you can now view these on our website under the Quick link 'Year 10 Immersion Trips'. Hopefully all Immersion Groups will meet before the end of this year and begin the formation process. In 2020 all the Immersion students will be doing a Project Based Learning Unit that will allow them to be better prepared for these experiences. The project occurs in Semester 1 and is focused on giving them a solid formation and knowledge of the community they will be living with. This unit will form part of their normal timetabled classes.

In the meantime we thought it would be advantageous to communicate to you the latest information and the various things that you should be considering, or planning for, over the next few months.

Attached to this letter is the **Parent Permission Form** for your child to attend one of these trips. It is asked that you and your child read the form carefully, then both sign it, and return it to Les Billings at the College (Knight Street Campus) no later than **Tuesday, 3 December**. We ask that you pay a deposit of \$350 before the end of the school year; you will be sent an invoice for this. The remaining amount is to be paid in two further instalments as outlined here. We also ask that if you have any issues with these payments please call me at the College as we realise it is late in the year and Christmas is fast approaching.

Payment expectations: \$350 deposit due Tuesday, 3 December 2019.
Please note due to terms and conditions of travel insurance, this payment is non-refundable after 6 December, 2019.
\$1000 by the end of February in 2020.
\$950 by the end of Term 1 in 2020.

Passport requirements: For those who require a passport please ensure you apply for one immediately, or if you have one, check that it has at least six months validity at the time we leave Australia. It is also a good idea to carry copies of a recent passport photo with you, in case you need a replacement passport while overseas. We also ask for a copy of the passport, so we can scan it and keep the image on file to send overseas if required.
NOTE: It is vitally important that the airline tickets have the correct spelling of your child's full and correct legal name; the **Parent Permission Form** has a place for you to write their full name. Please carefully check your passport, or passport application, and ensure that we have the name fully and correctly spelt.

PTO...

Immunisations: Please check with your doctor ASAP about their recommendations on any immunisations for your child. This is a personal decision and each family needs to consider their own needs and health concerns. Advice can be found at: <https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/travel-health>

The following tables show the dates, passport requirements and some travel information sites we recommend you visit.

FIJI	
Dates	Group A Sunday 5 July – Thursday 16 July - TBC
	Group B Monday 6 July – Friday 17 July - TBC
	Group C Tuesday 7 July – Saturday 18 July - TBC
Travel Advice	http://smartraveller.gov.au/Countries/pacific/Pages/fiji.aspx
Passport required	Yes

TIMOR LESTE	
Dates	Monday 8 July – Sunday 17 July - TBC
Travel Advice	http://smartraveller.gov.au/Countries/asia/south-east/Pages/timor_lestoneste.aspx
Passport required	Yes

BROOME - LOMBADINA/DJARINDJIN	
Dates	Sunday 28 June – Thursday 9 July - TBC
Travel Advice	http://www.kimberleyaustralia.com/
Passport required	No

Note that the smartraveller sites are all encompassing and therefore the advice is very broad ranging and designed for extreme as well as normal situations. The trip we do to Fiji has been a regular feature of our Immersion experience for many years and we are confident that it is a safe area for us to travel. The Timor Leste trip is one that quite a number of other Marist Schools attend on a regular basis, and is in an area well known, and well frequented, by the Marist Brothers. So again, we are confident that it is a safe place to travel in. The Western Australia trip visits the communities of Lombadina/Djarindjin and again we have travelled there for the last few years and have always felt safe and welcomed.

Immersion Commissioning Dinner

Tuesday, 16 June 2020 is the date for the Immersion Commissioning Dinner, the venue is Shepparton Italian Social Club, Marungi St, Shepparton (Opposite the Library, next to Princess Park Sporting Oval) and the evening will be a 6:30pm arrival with dinner at 7:00pm. This is an important event in the Immersion Programme and all staff and students who are going on an Immersion Trip in 2020 are required to attend. We also welcome all family members to come along and celebrate the beginning of this important journey. A small donation is asked for to help cover the cost of catering for this event.

We look forward to working with your child and accompanying them on the Immersion Trips in 2020. Please do not hesitate to contact Les Billings at the school if you have any questions.

Kind Regards,



Mr Les Billings
Deputy Principal Catholic Identity



Mrs Kris Walker
Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching

Student Agreement

Please return this agreement and permission slip to Reception at Knight St by Tuesday, 3 December.

You have been selected to go on an Immersion Trip in 2020.

As part of accepting this position you are agreeing that you will do the following;

- Attend and participate in all pre-Immersion activities and information sessions.
- Organise your own passport and extra medical requirements (immunisations) if required prior to departure.
- Travel to and from your destination with the whole group on the dates specified.
- Participate in all activities while away (including Mass, work and school activities).
- Behave in an appropriate and culturally sensitive manner whilst living within another community.
- Arrange for the trip to be paid in full as specified in the attached letter.
- Be willing to be actively involved in Social Justice Activities at Notre Dame College on your return.
- Agree to leave your mobile phone and all other electronic devices at home.

I agree to abide by all of the above

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Trip Permission Slip

I give permission for my child to attend the nominated Notre Dame College Immersion Trip in 2020. I have read and discussed the above requirements with my child, and I am confident that they will be able to fulfil each of these. In the event of any illness or accident occurring to my child, the College Staff will notify me as soon as possible. I authorise the College Staff, to permit on my behalf, the administration of any anaesthetic as recommended by a Medical Practitioner if deemed necessary. I have attached updated relevant medical information (including any medications my child is currently taking) and will keep the organising staff members informed of any changes to these.

Nominated Trip: _____

Student Name: _____ (Shown exactly as it appears on their passport)

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Copy of Passport attached

Passport copy to come