



Church of England School
Headteacher: Mr A J Wilcock MA (Cantab)

7th June 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Sixth Form Humanities Trip – Russia 2017
(for students studying History, Government & Politics or Geography)

The Humanities Faculty are very pleased to be able offer your son or daughter the opportunity to take part in a 7 day trip to Russia during the Easter break of 2017 arranged through NST (www.nstgroup.co.uk). The trip/visit is completely voluntary. However we believe that this will be a valuable addition to your son/daughter's school experience. This letter outlines the purpose of the visit and gives you some information about it including some indications of the likely cost.

The trip will take place over the Easter holidays - **31st March-6th April 2017**. The trip is designed to enrich the History A Level curriculum. However it is open to all Sixth Form students studying Humanities subjects (History, Government & Politics or Geography).

Russia is a country which was torn apart and shaped irreparably by the revolutions of 1917 and subsequent civil war. The events of 1917 and the setting up of the world's first Communist state moulded not only the country but also the world in the century to come. This trip will focus on the places and people involved in this monumental change. Students will see sites related to the imperial regime, including the Winter Place, home to the Romanov dynasty as well as the home in which Rasputin was murdered. They will also see many of the places involved in the revolutions and relating to Lenin, as well as some focussing on the Great Patriotic War.

Students will visit Moscow, the current capital of Russia with the strong influences of Soviet rule which can be seen all around the city. They will also visit St Petersburg, the old capital of imperial Russia and see remnants of the world of the Tsars as well as some of the key sites relating to the revolutions of 1917. Students will also get a chance to visit the city of Kronstadt, arguably the home of the revolution where sailors and soldiers in February and October rose up as well as the site of the most serious revolt Lenin saw in 1921.

This trip has been tailored for students at Bishop Ramsey and we hope to include the following on this visit:

- Moscow city tour to include the Kremlin as well as other landmarks
- Visit to Lenin's home in Moscow
- Day trip to Kronstadt
- St Petersburg city tour including the Aurora Battleship, Peter & Paul Fortress, the Hermitage (previously the Winter Palace residence of the Tsar)
- Visit to the Yusupov Palace and Rasputin museum
- Catherine & Peterhof Palaces
- Other landmarks of Moscow & St Petersburg
- Evening activities including a folklore show, bowling, "Museum" of Soviet Arcade games and a night-time city tour.



Address: Hume Way, Ruislip, Middlesex. HA4 8EE ∞ **Telephone:** 01895 639227 ∞ **Facsimile:** 01895 622429
Email: office@bishopramseyschool.org ∞ **Website:** www.bishopramseyschool.org

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The cost of the trip will be **approximately £1100** (the final price and the viability of the trip going ahead is dependent on minimum numbers being reached). The price includes coach hire, air travel on a scheduled airline, all internal travel including a sleeper train, accommodation (on a half board basis), all entrance fees and tours as well as the services of a guide for the duration of the trip.

Due to recent changes to the system of visa application by the British Government, Russia now require visa applications to be done on an individual basis in person at the Russian embassy in London. The current price for this is approximately £100 (however, this is subject to change). We will be able to support your son/daughter in this process but you should be aware we cannot do this for your son/daughter.

We appreciate there is a significant financial cost associated with this trip so to assist you in the planning for this, as an indication it is likely that deposits would be payable in late September/early October (likely to be £250), with an interim payment due in mid-November and a final payment in early January.

At this stage we are asking parents/carers to respond via email (lrobinson.312@lqflmail.org) if their son/daughter is interested in taking part in this trip. This will assist us in gauging viability and likely numbers. A more detailed letter will be sent out early next term with further information and details on deposits which will be required to secure a place for your son/daughter.

If at this stage you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me via email (lrobinson.312@lqflmail.org) or phone 01895 639227 (ext 562).

Yours faithfully



Miss L Robinson
Humanities Faculty