18 May 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In 2010 the school conducted a successful China study tour involving students from Years 8 to 12. We are now organising a further China study tour to take place in the April school holidays in 2016.

The main goals of the tour are to enhance students’ cultural and linguistic study of Chinese to support the focus on Asian literacy at Burwood GHS. Furthermore, Hospitality students will be given the opportunity to experience China in terms of the social and cultural context of cuisine, travel and tourism. A special focus for TAS students will also be on the traditional textile arts and crafts of China, such as the silk industry.

Students will enjoy a range of meaningful experiences to broaden their knowledge and understanding of the links between Australia and China. The tour will provide students first-hand experience in communicating with native speakers in the Chinese environment. Students will be given the opportunity to visit many sites of historical and cultural importance. In addition, we hope to visit one of our sister schools in China.

We have received an initial proposal from tour companies with expertise in organising school study tours. The preferred option is:

- Shanghai – Hangzhou – Beijing. This option is for a 9-day tour and will cost approximately $3,500.

The price quoted above is inclusive of return international air tickets, transportation costs within China, accommodation, all breakfasts and most other meals, travel insurance, tickets to tourist sites, taxes – all costs except Chinese visa, some lunches and dinners, and personal spending. Prices are based on 20 students and 3 accompanying teachers, with a portion of the students’ payment to cover the travel costs of the teachers. Prices are subject to exchange rate and other variations until bookings are confirmed.

The tour is open to students who will be studying Chinese, Food Technology, Textiles Technology and Hospitality in Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 in 2016, and who have not had significant prior in-country experience of China. An information evening will be planned shortly to provide all those interested in the tour with further information.

If you are interested in having your daughter/ward participate in the tour, please complete the expression of interest form below and return it to Mr Wines or Ms Keller by Friday 29 May 2015.

Mia Kumar
Principal

Edward Kent
Head Teacher, Languages

Rosemary Patonay
Head Teacher, TAS

Complete tear-off section and return it to Mr Wines or Ms Keller by Friday 29 May 2015

My daughter/ward _______________________________ of Year ________ would love to participate in the April 2016 China study tour to practise her Chinese and to experience Chinese culture first hand. I am interested in finding out more about the tour. I understand the tour will cost approximately $3,500 (excluding Chinese visa, some meals and spending money).

Please tick whichever applies - My daughter/ward:

☐ Has previously travelled to or lived in China (includes mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan).

Indicate dates and length of stay: ________________________________

☐ Has not previously travelled to or lived in China.

Signature: ________________________________ (parent/guardian) Date: _________________

Parent’s daytime contact no.: ________________________________