

6 December 2011

Dear Parents

Year 12 and 13 Chemistry and Physics Day Trip to CERN (The European Organization for Nuclear Research) – Monday 18 June 2012

We have the opportunity to take the Sixth Form physicists and chemists on a day trip to CERN, near Geneva, on Monday 18 June 2012. This is a superb opportunity to see, at close quarters, one of the world's largest and most respected centres for scientific research. Its key purpose is state of the art work in fundamental physics and chemistry; finding out what the universe is made of and how it works. CERN recently made national headlines with coverage of its "Atlas" project which aims to study particle collisions in such detail that scientists hope to gain insight into what happened during the "Big Bang". The A-level chemistry course delves into the structure of the atom and the physics course contains a unit on Particle Physics. Both of these subject areas are directly relevant to the work which is undertaken at CERN and we hope that this visit will greatly enrich the students' learning.

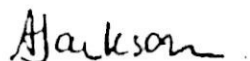
The trip is not compulsory although we would very much like as many students as possible to take up this exciting opportunity. In order to keep costs as low as possible, we will make the visit in one day. This will involve an early departure from Claremont and a late return time. Transport will involve travel by minibus to and from London Gatwick airport and a return flight to Geneva. On arrival in Geneva, we will take a local bus to CERN and take part in a guided tour of the facility after eating lunch there. More details will be provided once we know the exact number of students who wish to take part in the visit.

The return flights to Geneva for Monday 18 June are currently at a reasonably low price but the cost is rising weekly. In order to secure a low price before the start of the Christmas holidays, I need to have agreement from you, in the form of payment via ParentPay, **before 4.00pm on Thursday 15 December. Your son/daughter will also need to bring their passport (and any visa documents necessary for travel to Geneva if applicable) to Miss Jackson before this date.** The flights will be booked on Friday 16 December. In the event that the flight price changes towards the end of this term or the staffing requirement for the trip changes, there may be a need for me to ask for a small additional contribution at a later date.

The cost of the trip will be £131.00. To make your payment simply login to your son's/daughter's account on the ParentPay website (www.parentpay.com) and under the services menu select 'Year 12/13 CERN trip' by ticking the box to the left of the item and then click on 'continue' and follow the payment instructions. You may use debit or credit cards to pay for this service. Should you have any problems using the ParentPay system please contact the school via parentpay@claremont.surrey.sch.uk, tel: 01372 473604 or the ParentPay helpline and your enquiry will receive prompt attention.

Students should also bring 40CHF (Swiss Francs) in cash so that they can buy lunch in the CERN cafeteria (this typically costs 10-15CHF) and to cover any incidental costs such as bus fares, snacks and dinner at Geneva Airport. Contact and medical information will be collated from the school's database system. As soon as your payment has been received via ParentPay this school deems that permission to take part in this trip has been given.

Yours sincerely



Miss A Jackson, Teacher of Physics