

20 March 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

9 -11 Indonesian Trip (2019) Information Evening

Thank you attending the presentation tonight regarding the Operation Wallacea expedition to Indonesia. The expedition is open primarily to current year 9, 10 and 11 pupils who have a particular interest in wildlife, ecology and conservation.

For their first week, students will be based in the endemic-rich rainforests of Buton Island in South-East Sulawesi. Here they will help scientists and academics collect data on biodiversity, which will be used to measure how well the forests are being protected under their proposed conservation management strategies. They will complete jungle survival skills training and help take part in various surveys such as forest measurement, butterfly surveys, bird point count surveys, herpetofauna surveys large mammal and bird and bat surveys. They will also complete a course on the Ecology of the Wallacea Forests and have the chance to learn how to access the canopy with a half day training course from the Canopy Access Ltd team.

For the second week, the group will be based in either Bau Bau or Hoga. This is at the centre of the Coral Triangle – the most diverse reef systems in the world. Here they will learn to dive to PADI Open Water level, or if they are already dive-trained or just wish to snorkel, complete an Indo Pacific reef ecology course. The reef ecology course will cover the importance of the marine environment, along with underwater survey techniques.

The trip will run from 30 June – 13 July 2019. Please note though that due to the remote location and flight schedules, students should be prepared to leave three/four days either side to allow them to reach site and return home again.

We estimate the cost of the expedition to be approximately **USD4250**. We would break the cost of the expedition as follows:

Deposit – USD 250 by Friday 20 April 2018

USD 1300 by 1 July 2018

USD 1300 by 1 November 2018

USD 1100 by 1 February 2019

+/- USD 300 by 1 May 2019 (this amount will be edited up or down depending on final expedition price which will be determined once flights are purchased and group size is fixed)

Please return the reply slip below to **Mrs Collins** as soon as possible, but **no later than Friday 6 April**. You will then be prompted by **email** to make a deposit to Operation Wallacea by **Friday 20 April 2018**. Please note that this deposit of USD\$250 to Operation Wallacea is non-refundable.

Yours in the service of Christian education

Mrs E Collins
Biology Teacher

Mr M Green
Science Coordinator

I give permission for my child _____ to attend the Operation Wallacea expedition to Indonesia in **2019**.

By paying the deposit, I agree that I have also read and understood the terms and conditions of making the booking (see back page).

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Relationship to student: _____

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The text below forms the basis of the contract between the school and the parent.

- 1) By paying the deposit, you agree to make payments on time according to the schedule in the main letter. If you have any issues making the payments according to the payment schedule outlined by the school please contact us immediately so a solution can be found.
- 2) If payments are delayed beyond the due dates by more than 10 days then we reserve the right to cancel a student from the expedition and any payments made will be forfeited as according to Operation Wallacea's cancellation policy schedule below.
- 3) If you wish to cancel your child's expedition, Operation Wallacea's terms for cancellation are listed below.

3.2 If individuals in your group need to change or cancel their booking

If individuals within the booked group cancel, others can replace them from the school with no cancellation charges applicable up to the point at which the international flight tickets are issued. Once flight tickets are issued the names cannot be changed, and therefore replacing the cancelled student(s) would not be possible after this point. Unless the student can be replaced, cancellation will involve following charges:

<i>Period before departure</i>	<i>Cancellation charge</i>
Before 15 September of the year prior to your expedition**	Loss of \$250 deposit
15 September - 31 December of the year prior to your expedition	\$250 deposit + 25% of total package price
1 January – 28 February of the year of your expedition	\$250 deposit + 50% of total package price
1 March – 30 April of the year of your expedition	\$250 deposit + 75% of total package price
1 May – start of expedition	\$250 deposit + 100% of total package costs

*If a student should cancel after your international flights have been booked, and the above cancellation charge does not cover the cost of the international flights, then the cancellation charge will, as a minimum, be the cost of the international flight plus the USD250 deposit. We may book your international flights any time after 15 September.

Please note that we require written confirmation by post or email of any cancellation and the cancellation will take effect from the day the written confirmation is received by Operation Wallacea. If a cancellation is made for medical reasons please check your schools/personal travel insurance policy, as you may be able to reclaim some of the charges above.

Please ensure that you have taken out suitable insurance to cover against any unforeseen issues before the expedition that could affect your child's attendance (e.g. bereavement a week before departure, injury requiring long term rehabilitation)

- 4) Operation Wallacea may need to amend certain aspects of the itinerary at any time in line with the overall objectives and context of the expedition and reserve the right to do this. In the event of Operation Wallacea deeming travel to our destination unsafe for any reason, more than 3 months before departure, they provide a suitable alternative. As a result we are unable to refund any monies, beyond the conditions outlined above. We undertake not to cancel any expedition closer than 3 months to the expedition start date unless in exceptional circumstances such as war, riots, civil strife, industrial action so severe that alternative transport and accommodation cannot be provided, terrorist activity, natural and nuclear disaster, fire, adverse weather conditions, technical problems with transport and similar unforeseeable circumstances where compensation payments cannot be made.
- 5) The following is not included in expedition price:
 - Any personal equipment recommended for the expedition (e.g. walking boots, clothes, sunscreen)
 - Additional insurance cover beyond the £1 million expedition medical and evacuation insurance cover provided by Opwall. If you have a pre-existing medical condition, please contact Opwall as additional medical coverage may be required.
 - Costs of additional elective training (e.g. dive training before the expedition, or beyond PADI Open Water)
 - Local taxes
 - Visa costs
 - Vaccination costs