

7 February 2018

Shibuya Makuhari Junior High School Cultural Exchange 2018 Visit Information

Dear Parents / Caregivers

This newsletter gives you information about the 2018 Peachgrove Intermediate School trip to Japan. We will be travelling to Shibuya Makuhari Junior High School in Chiba-Tokyo. This will be our fifth visit to this school. Please have a look at the school's website for detailed information - <http://shibumaku-en.jp/>.

- Where Chiba – Tokyo, Japan
- When Monday 17 September – Saturday 29 September 2018
- Cost \$3,500

Peachgrove Intermediate travels with eight other Waikato Intermediate schools to visit Japan each year. This annual exchange is with Shibuya Makuhari Junior High School in Chiba, Tokyo. Each of the nine schools can choose up to six students to travel with the group (this number may increase if other schools do not take their allocated number). Each school also provides one staff member to accompany the students from that school. One of our senior leaders will be travelling with the Peachgrove group of students.

Students pay a \$200.00 non-refundable deposit to secure their place by Monday the 19th of February 2018 and a further \$300.00 by 1 March 2018. Six more payments of \$500.00 are required on the first day of April, May, June, July, August and September. The total cost covers airfares, bus transport to Auckland, airport transfers in Japan, entry into venues visited in Japan, a homestay fee and uniform costs.

The flight to Japan is approximately 10 ½ hours and we enjoy warm autumn weather on arrival. Each student is billeted with a Japanese family in much the same way as the Makuhari students are billeted when they are here visiting us in March each year.

While in Japan students will be involved in a programme with many highlights. These will include visits to:

1. Tokyo city
2. Disneyland
3. Disney Sea
4. Museums
5. Sumo wrestling
6. Several schools
7. Cultural sites

There will be about 8 meetings of the Peachgrove group during 2018 – so that we can keep parents and caregivers fully informed of all the details regarding this trip. We will share ideas and plan for fundraising

and the students will be given lessons at school on Japanese culture and basic Japanese language (no charge).

I have travelled with previous Peachgrove groups to Japan as the Lead Teacher and can assure you that if your child is selected to attend, it will be a trip that he/she will always remember. Japanese people are excellent hosts and we are always made to feel very welcome and treated with the utmost respect and genuine care.

The following basic criteria are considered when I select the students who will be coming on this trip:

1. Being able to communicate with confidence
2. Accepting the challenge of travelling overseas without a family member
3. Willingness to learn about and be respectful of cultural differences
4. Displaying a positive attitude and work ethic at school

If you are interested in your child being considered for this trip please complete the tear-off form and return to Mrs Barham. There will be a meeting for those children (and their parents) who are selected to travel on Monday 19 February 2018 at 6.00pm. At this meeting, you will have the chance to ask any questions that you may have before accepting the offer of a place in the travelling group and before making your \$200 deposit.

Receiving this information early gives you more time to start saving for the trip with your child.

Yours sincerely

Louisa Barham
PRINCIPAL



Please fill in and return to the school office ASAP and before next Friday 16 February 2018.

Student's Name: _____ Team : _____

I give permission for my child to be considered as an applicant to travel with the Peachgrove touring group to Japan in September 2018.

I understand that if my child is selected that I will need to pay a deposit of \$200 by 19th February 2018.

Parent / Caregiver's Name: _____

Parent / Caregiver's Signature: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____