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May 2022

Potential Indonesian Trip 2023

Dear Parents,

Next year, we are hoping to take students from St John's Grammar School on overseas trips. COVID restrictions have prevented us from traveling overseas on school trips since the beginning of 2020. As current restrictions start to ease, in line with other schools, we want to investigate once again taking our students on overseas trips in 2023.

At this stage, we want to gather expressions of interest for each of the trips in order to investigate the process moving forward. The school will have to follow international travel regulations in regards to vaccination at the time of travel as well as school regulations.

The **Indonesian Language and Cultural Trip** is an opportunity for students currently in Years 11, 10 and 8 who are studying Indonesian. Students who are currently in Year 11 doing Year 12 Indonesian need to consider the timing of this trip in their decision-making. As this is our first trip to Sulawesi, we will be using G.E.T Educational Tours, which is Australia's largest and most experienced educational tour provider, having been established since 1960.

The proposed dates for the 2023 trip are **Saturday 23rd September until Wednesday 4th October 2023 (12 days)**.

It is so exciting to be planning another Indonesian trip! The journey will begin with a flight via Denpasar to South Sulawesi, where the students will spend three days visiting our Sister School, MAN Insan Cendekia in Gowa. This group of students will have the exciting opportunity to be the inaugural group of students to visit our Sister School. Here students will attend school and experience all that Indonesian school life has to offer, as well as attend local excursions as a group. This is a chance to immerse in authentic Indonesian language, life, culture and cuisine. In just a few days visiting our Sister School, students make strong and real connections. This friendship encourages language learning and global understanding, which supports them through Stage 1 and 2 Indonesian, as well as encourages understanding of culture, and provides a link to a peer on the other side of the world that is often life-long.

Students will then return to Makassar and explore all that the capital city has to offer including visiting the former Palace of the Sultan, a floating Mosque and the waterfalls of the Batimurung National Park. From here, students will travel to Tana Toraja, to witness the ancient and untouched architecture and culture of the Kete Kesu and Sa'dan Villages. In this region, students will also visit the Bantu Burake statue, the tallest statue of Jesus in the world that also offers an expansive view of the mountains.

We then return to Bali where we spend three nights in Sanur, participating in Batik and Offering making lessons, witnessing the famous Kecak dance, a sunset at Tanah Lot and an afternoon at Waterbom Park just to name a few highlights.

Learning to Soar

Indonesian teachers and other staff members attending manage the travel section of the trip along with local tour guides provided through the G.E.T Tour Company.

Before we go to Indonesia, students will each learn about one of the famous locations and landmarks and take the lead on sharing this with the group at each location. Students will get a taste of international travel, big cities, traditional temples and architecture, religious monuments, Indonesian school life, and global concepts and have memories that will last a lifetime.

The cost of the trip will be approximately \$3000 with an additional \$250 spending money to be taken by each student to cover some meals, drinks, snacks and a few souvenirs. Details of the exact cost will be provided once we establish numbers.

Please fill out the expression of interest through the Google Form link below to register your interest by the end of week 5 this term. Once we have received the forms we will arrange an information session to answer your questions.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdC9T5TEW3oTsykAvbuVOycM4a301Hkpa6B4I7vPbxh64VVhA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Kind regards,

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