

PO Box 234 Belair SA 5052
enquiries@stjohns.sa.edu.au
www.stjohns.sa.edu.au
CRICOS Provider No 02301D

Secondary Campus and Administration
+61 8 8278 2233
ELC and Junior Campus
+61 8 8278 2242



May 2022

Potential Japan Trip 2023

Dear Parents,

Next year, we are hoping to once again 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 Japanese Language and Cultural Trip is an opportunity for students **currently in Years 9, 10 and 11** who are studying Japanese. Usually Year 12 students do not go on the Japan trip because it is close to their exams so this needs to be considered in the decision-making process. Also to be considered for students in Year 9 and 10, is that this trip is only every 2 years so it will not be offered to their cohort other than next year.

The proposed dates for the 2023 trip are **Saturday 23rd September until Saturday 7th October**.

It is very exciting to be considering this again! To give you an outline of the trip, it consists of six days in homestay at our Sister School, Yasufuruichi in Hiroshima, where students will attend school and experience all that Japanese school life has to offer, as well as attend local excursions as a group. This is a chance to immerse in authentic Japanese language, life, culture, cuisine, travel and home stay. This is the highlight for many of our students. In just 6 days staying with our Sister School, Yasufuruichi in Hiroshima, students make strong and real connections with their host family. This friendship encourages language learning and global understanding, which supports them through Stage 1 and 2 Japanese, as well as encourages understanding of culture, and provides a link to a family on the other side of the world that is often life-long. We continue to strive to create a sister school relationship that provides opportunities for our students that allow them to have a global understanding. As part of this program in the past students have been involved in the Sister School International Sustainability Project which allows them to explore concepts and ideas in innovation in this space.

From Hiroshima, we travel on the bullet train across Japan to Himeji to see the oldest castle in Japan, followed by the past capital Kyoto where we explore the temples, shrines, traditional shopping districts and make friends with the wild deer in the streets of Nara. We travel as a group learning the way of traveling through Japan visiting some of the world's amazing sights – Mount Fuji, Hiroshima Peace Park and Tokyo, the technology capital of the world where creativity and innovation is everywhere. There are also visits to traditional temples and shrines made of gold. Students will travel to these places on the fastest train in the world, the bullet train, as well as planes, buses, cable cars and ferries.

Learning to Soar

The final part of the trip is in the capital, Tokyo, where students are immersed in this hugely populated, technological city that never stops. From here, we bus up to Stage 5 of Mount Fuji, travel to the surrounding lakes, visit the tallest building in Tokyo, the famous Harujuku shopping district, the digital art museum, Studio Ghibli, and Tokyo Disneyland.

Japanese teacher and other teachers attending manage the travel section of the trip without tour guides, giving students a chance to see how to travel through Japan and learn to negotiate some of the busiest train stations in the world. After home stay everybody stays together in hotel accommodation.

Before we go to Japan students will each learn about one of the famous locations 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, Japanese family life and school life, global concepts and have memories that will last a lifetime.

The cost of the trip will be approximately \$4500 with an additional \$600 spending money to be taken by each student to cover food, drinks, snacks, entry, buses, local trains, and a few souvenirs. Therefore, **the total estimated cost is \$5100**. Details of the exact cost will be given 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. Once we have received the forms back we will arrange an information session to answer your questions.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJDI25KVb8q0VsE06ha9v9Mbsx6GG38mvdTZ74wdsjoXQCIQ/vie wform?usp=sf_link

Kind regards,

Catherine Emmerson

Japanese Language Teacher and Deputy Principal

