



MODULE VANIER

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Mme S. Peart – Vice-Principal (Vanier)
Mrs. T. McKenna – Site Principal (KCVI)
Mr. L. Gibson – Site Vice-Principal (KCVI)

Mme J. Hamlyn – Office Administrator
Mr. J. Blackstock – Head Caretaker
Mrs. M. Connelly Site Vice-Principal (KCVI)

April 23, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians of Grade 7 Students,

At this time of year we begin planning for next year's "Grade 8 Trip" which has traditionally been the four-day trip to St-Donat, Québec. Part of this planning includes a consultation with parents to gauge interest and then making a tentative date request to *Perspectives*, the company that runs the program. Your feedback will be greatly appreciated.

The St-Donat trip has been a highlight and anticipated trip for many Vanier Grade 8 students and parents over the years. It has been a fantastic opportunity to celebrate French learning in an authentic immersion experience that incorporates many cross curricular and cultural learning goals.

What is St-Donat?

St-Donat is a 4-day trip to the village of St-Donat, Québec (north of Montreal, in the Laurentians). The trip takes place during the winter season so that students can take part in the many outdoor education activities available in Canada. It is also an excursion that integrates French language skills and Québec culture with these outdoor education activities as well as with music, drama, ecology, and history. The village of St-Donat, Québec is the ideal natural environment for French language immersion. Our students have many authentic opportunities to use their French with the many villagers that are part of the *Perspectives* program. Our students order their meals in French from the restaurant, visit the *boulangerie* in St-Donat to order a treat, take part in ski lessons, learn and record songs and take part in ecology lessons during their cross country skiing outing. St-Donat is an opportunity for our students to celebrate their bilingualism.

The trip includes the following highlights:

- Transportation by highway coach to and from St-Donat and for 4 days while in St-Donat (for daily trips to ski chalet, to cross country ski park, skating rink)
- Hotel accommodations for 3-nights and 4-days at *L'Etoile du Nord*
- Night security from curfew to 6:00 a.m.
- 3 full breakfasts and 3 complete dinners
- Ski passes at Mont Garceau for 3 days
- 2 ½ hours per day of ski or snowboard instruction by qualified CSIA instructors
- Free skiing time on the last day
- 2 days of language workshops
- Cross-country skiing (instruction, equipment and outing included)
- 3 nights of outdoor activities lead by "moniteurs" – snowshoeing, skating, sliding, coop games
- 3 nights of indoor entertainment shows
- 3 nights of bedtime snacks (juice and muffin/cookies)
- And ALL aspects of the program are in French!

*The cost of the trip does not include ski/snowboard equipment rental, helmet rental and lunches.

While the total amount of next year's trip is yet to be finalized by *Perspectives*, we can anticipate it being approximately **\$600.00**. Equipment and helmet rental is approximately **\$70.00**.

If there is enough interest in St-Donat 2018 we will begin by requesting from *Perspectives* a late January 2018 date. In September, we would invite you to a Parent/Student Information Evening at the school. We would then ask for a deposit of \$100 and a signed registration form by the end of September 2018.

We look forward to your feedback. Please complete the attached survey and return it to the school by Friday, May 4th. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mme Peart
Vice Principal

Please detach and return this form to the Vanier Office by Friday, May 4th, 2018

St-Donat 2018-19

Parent Interest Survey & Feedback Form

Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Yes, I am interested in the St-Donat trip for my child.

Yes, I would be interested in attending a Parent/Student Information Evening in September 2018 and learning more about a Grade 8 trip to St-Donat, Québec.

No, I am not interested in a Grade 8 trip to St-Donat, Québec for my child.

We have the option to have an extra day of skiing (with no lesson). This would add approximately \$30.00 to the total cost of the trip (to purchase lift-tickets). Please provide us with some feedback:

I would like to add the extra day of skiing (at a cost of approximately \$30.00)

I do not want to add the extra day of skiing.

Additional comments/Questions:



Parent Signature _____

Date: _____