



Week Without Walls 2016-17

Grade 10 Beng Pae, Cambodia

Jan 15 - Jan 20, 2017

August 24, 2016

Dear Grade 10 parents and guardians,

Welcome to Week Without Walls 2016-17. We are excited to announce we are finalising plans for our Week Without Walls 2016-17 school trips. We have an exciting grade-level trip being planned for the week of 15th – 21st January, 2017. During The Week Without Walls (WWW) we *Educate to Make a Difference* by fostering cultural exchange and learning through a range of meaningful, practical and authentic experiences.

Rationale

Taking learning beyond the classroom expands learners' understanding of the curriculum and its possible applications as well as contributing to their individual development. These trips create learning experiences that encourage each student to realise their potential. Week Without Walls is one of the building blocks that assist in creating success in a child's academic life and beyond. It continues to offer the opportunity to develop an individual's physical, social and emotional wellbeing, a healthy and positive disposition, connectedness with others, and self-awareness. Every Week Without Walls trip will provide the opportunity for personal development, to learn and contribute to local and other communities, and for adventure.

Camp Beng Pae

Camp Beng Pae is located in the village of Ta Lek near Kampong Thom. Ta Lek village is in the Beng Pae Wildlife Reserve and has a population of around 1000 people. The villagers are from the Kuoy people-a minority hill tribe who in history were famous for producing the best Angkorian Swords in the whole of Cambodia. Now the villagers are mainly farmers and the majority of the population is extremely poor. The reserve is home to many wildlife species including Sun Bears, deer, Leopard Cat, Agile Gibbons and even Tigers.

The village currently has a high impact on the Wildlife Reserve as they rely on it for providing them with food and wood for building and therefore are depleting it faster than it can recover. Our project work here will focus on reforestation of areas of the depleted reserve. We will also work, in areas outside the reserve, to provide a sustainable source of wood for the community and the planting of fruit trees. The community can harvest the fruit to eat and to sell at the markets to provide an income. There will also be work in the community improving facilities at the school and rebuilding some of the houses of the poor and elderly in the village.



Please note the following information:

- **The trips are mandatory for all ISS students and organised for the entire grade level.**
- Your child **must** have a valid passport with an expiry date **no sooner** than **August 1, 2017**.
- A **visa** must be purchased by your child by **5th December 2016** (if required). The cost is not included in trip fees.

Key Dates for your diary:

Monday 19th September - First installment payment due of SGD600 (Invoices will be sent)

Tuesday 18th October – Application forms completed and submitted to school

Thursday 3rd November - Parent information evening at ISS Preston, 7pm in the Hall

Monday 7th November - Final payment due of SGD780

Monday 5th December – Visa applications completed and purchased (if required)

Sunday 15th January - The trip will depart from Changi Airport on Sunday 15th Jan.

Friday 22nd - The trip will return to Changi Airport on Friday 20th Jan.

Regards

Rachel McCarthy

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(Deputy High School Principal)