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20 June 2016

## **Boston Science Trip - 2017**

Dear parent/guardian

The Science Department is planning to run a trip to Boston USA. The main purpose of the trip is to provide an opportunity for students to find out about future study/career opportunities in the field of science and to experience a rare total eclipse. Students will have the opportunity to see cutting edge research in some of the world's foremost science institutions.

The dates of next year's trip are Wednesday 16 August, returning on Wednesday 23 August 2017.

In order to obtain accommodation in the required locations we need to book next year's trip now.

As well as the Total eclipse, other highlights of the trip include:

- Touring one of the world's top 5 research universities - Massachusetts Institute of Technology;
- Visiting the world famous Harvard University;
- Boston Museum of Science with over 600 interactive science exhibits, including the world's largest Van de Graaff generator and a full scale space capsule;
- Charles Hayden Planetarium, one of the most technologically advanced digital theatres in the world;
- Star gazing at the Gilliland Observatory;
- Visiting the New England Aquarium;
- Watching a Boston Red Sox baseball game at Fenway Park;
- Visiting a large theme park;
- Opportunities for recreation, sight seeing and shopping.

All travel, accommodation, insurance, trips and meals in Boston are included in the cost. Pupils will only need to bring money for some food on the outward journey and their own personal spending money. We hope to keep the cost at a maximum of £1800, but we ask you to note that the final cost will depend on the final number of participants and on financial issues such as the exchange rate nearer the departure date. The first payment is a non-returnable deposit of £200 to be paid by 17 August 2016, followed by a second deposit of £350 to be paid by 10 October 2016, which is also non returnable. The remaining balance is required by 1 June 2017. The balance can then be paid in instalments if more convenient, but in any case, by 1 June 2017. Some financial assistance may be available should this be required; please contact Mr Jones at North Berwick High School for further information.

Our preferred method of payment is online via East Lothian Council's secure internet payment service. This can be accessed by clicking on the 'Online Payments' link found on the left hand side of the NBHS homepage ([www.edubuzz.org/northberwickhigh](http://www.edubuzz.org/northberwickhigh)) or by visiting [www.eastlothian.gov.uk](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk) and clicking on PAY FOR IT. Select *High School Payments* from the list and fill in the form with the details. Please use the school payment reference '**Boston Science trip 2017**'. If you would prefer, cheques are payable to East Lothian Council.

If you wish your child to be given a place, please complete the form below and return it by Tuesday 28 June 2016. **Please note that all deposits are non-returnable.**

Yours Faithfully



Mr A. Macdonald

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I would like my child to be given a place on the Boston Science Trip - 2017. I agree to make the initial deposit payment of £200 by Monday 17 August 2016, agree to pay a further deposit of £350 by 10 of October 2016 and the balance by 1 of June 2017. I understand the deposits are non-returnable.

Pupil's name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Parent/Carer) \_\_\_\_\_