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19th February 2008

Dear Parent / Guardian

Rainforest World Music Festival 2008 July 11th – 14th

Students are invited, once again, to participate in this year's trip to Sarawak from July 11th – 14th for the annual Rainforest World Music Festival. It is a 3 day festival at which international performers come to share their passion for World Music, entertaining and educating others with their unique cultures. It is an unforgettable and unique event in a wonderful setting – the Sarawak Cultural Village. This is an event which I believe gives students an enriching and unique experience. You may have read past articles in Ad Astra describing the trip, as this will be the fifth year that EP students will be attending. Details of this year's festival and performers can be viewed on the official website:

<http://www.rainforestmusic-borneo.com>

This year, the festival begins on the last Friday of the Summer Term. Those going will have to miss the last Friday and Monday of the school year, returning home on the Monday afternoon in time for the final two days of term. You will be informed of the precise flight details once the bookings are confirmed. Trip details are below:

Travel dates:	11 th – 14 th July 2008
Festival dates:	11 th – 13 th July 2008
Hotel:	Hotel Damai Puri, Damai Lagoon
Accompanying staff:	Mr Hamilton, myself plus one additional staff member
Number of students:	Maximum 30
Trip cost:	RM 2,200 payable in full by March 4 th (inclusive of a non-refundable deposit of RM 700).
Other costs incurred:	Students will need cash to buy lunches and drinks and must have credit in their hand phones.
Souvenirs:	Souvenirs such as T-shirts, musical instruments and CDs by the performers are always available.

Workshop sessions run daily from 2.00 – 5.00pm with evening concerts from 7.00pm to 12.00 midnight. There are outdoor stages for the evening performances and the audience sits (or dances) on the slopes.

Students will be expected to attend the daily afternoon workshop sessions and evening concerts. This involves a ten minute walk to and from the Sarawak Cultural Village from the hotel twice each day. Students will have freedom to explore the examples of Sarawak architecture, visit the stalls and have lunch in the Cultural Village. They can also choose which workshops they are interested in, but will be expected to 'check in' with their group leader in between afternoon workshop sessions (every hour). At the evening concerts, they will be expected to check in during set changes. Every student will need to have a hand phone on this trip, and will be responsible for having it on and being contactable at all times. Any time not spent at the festival will be spent at the hotel, and students with parental permission will be allowed to swim in the hotel pool.

This trip cost of RM2,200 covers the following:

- Flights between KL and Kuching (Sarawak) with transfer to and from the resort
- 3 days' entrance to the festival
- Hotel (triple sharing) inclusive of buffet breakfasts and dinners
- Medical coverage as provided for school trips within Malaysia

Securing a place

International bookings begin the moment the festival ends for the following year. If your child is keen to join the trip, please complete the attached reply slip and return this as soon as possible, with a photocopy of your child's passport details, to ensure prompt confirmation of our booking.

If you have any queries about the trip, please email me at janderson.ep@alice-smith.edu.my and I will be happy to give you any further information.

Trip participants

The full quota is 30 students and 3 staff. Priority will be given to Music GCSE and A level students, and then to those involved in musical activities. Kindly note that once the places have been allocated and your child's participation has been confirmed, the full payment should be sent in. This may be either in cash or by cheque made payable to 'The Alice Smith Schools Association'.

I look forward to hearing from you, and thank you for supporting your child's interest in this trip.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Anderson
RWMF Trip co-ordinator

janderson@alice-smith.edu.my

RETURN TO MS ANDERSON ASAP

I WOULD LIKE MY CHILD _____ TUTOR GROUP: _____
TO ATTEND THE RAINFOREST WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL 2008.

I HAVE ATTACHED A COPY OF MY CHILD'S PASSPORT*	
I HAVE NOT ATTACHED A COPY OF MY CHILD'S PASSPORT, BUT WILL DO SO BY THE FOLLOWING DATE:*	

*Please tick

SIGNED _____ DATE: _____

PHONE: (H/P) _____ (OFFICE) _____ (HOME) _____

EMAIL: _____