



Solihull School

29 June 2010

Dear Parents

Solihull School would like to invite a group of students from an international school in Chile to spend eight days in the Solihull and West Midlands area, from Friday 10 September until Saturday 18 September 2010. We have hosted students from another Chilean school over the last four years and the success of these experiences has prompted us to invite another school this year.

Oxford School, Villarrica, Chile, is a small school of 150 students aged from 3 to 18 years old. A group of ten students aged 17 years will be visiting England. It would be a wonderful opportunity to have these students with us for a few days. Mr Gerry Gunning, Head of Spanish, Modern Languages Department, and Mrs Julie Brown, Teacher of Geography, have forged links with a number of schools in Chile and we hope that it will develop our students' cultural awareness and language skills

In order to give the Oxford students a true immersion into our way of life, we would like to ask our parents of Fourth Year, Middle School and Sixth Form students if they would be prepared to host a student for this period of time and provide them with a unique experience of family life. The students will be either at school with your son/daughter or out on an excursion during the days.

If your son or daughter is studying Spanish, he/she will have a wonderful opportunity to converse in Spanish and to listen to South American Spanish. He/she will also be able to help his/her Chilean visitor get to grips with our language and all its peculiarities. We will be establishing an email and messenger link with the students during Spanish lessons so that the friendship can be established before the students arrive.

For the last four years we have sent out every summer a Gap student to our other Chilean link, Wessex School, Concepción, to work as an English Assistant. This year Will Lucas (left Solihull School in 2008) will do his language placement in Chile and work at Wessex. Oxford School would be very happy to have a Gap student from Solihull School, so any student hosting would be able to get a greater insight into the school, meet the Headmistress and reserve a place for next summer! What a wonderful opportunity!

A trip to Chile for Lower Fifth and Lower Sixth students took place during the Easter holidays, 2008. Solihull students were hosted by Oxford School and two other international schools, as well as enjoying adventurous activities in the glacial and volcanic regions of the country. The trip planned for Easter 2010 was postponed due to the earthquake in Chile, but has been rescheduled for Easter 2011. A letter and itinerary are available for anyone interested and are on the School's website at www.solsch.org.uk.

Could we please ask you to think about this request to host the Oxford students and to sign the reply slip on the next page? Since we are not a boarding school, we are unable to offer Oxford School this opportunity without your help. We would also like to keep all the students together with us in the Solihull School community, rather than divide them into smaller groups between a variety of West Midlands schools.

You may wish to ask some questions before you make a decision either way, or about any other issue mentioned in the letter. We are happy to receive your calls or emails and urge you to get in touch as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J S Brown
brownj@solsch.org.uk

Mr P G Gunning
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To: Mrs J S Brown / Mr P G Gunning

VISIT OF OXFORD SCHOOL, CHILE 10-18 SEPTEMBER 2010

I am able/unable** to host: [number] student[s] from Oxford School, Chile.

Son's/daughter's name:..... Form:

Signed: (Parent/Guardian) Date:

Please tick the statements below if you would like more information.

We are interested in knowing more about future trips to Chile.

Our son/daughter would like to know more about the GAP possibilities in Chile, either for a summer holiday period or once they have finished their A Levels.

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