

Module de l'Acadie

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S. Peart - Curriculum & Instruction Vice Principal

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May 8, 2017

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

*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 determined by *Perspectives*, we can anticipate it being approximately **\$400**.

We recognize that the cost of this 3-day trip is high. Should you be interested in this opportunity for your child and if there is enough parent interest to move forward with the trip, we would encourage you to begin budgeting for the trip early (i.e., gifting the trip as part of birthday and holiday gifts, having your child contribute allowance money).

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 2017.

We look forward to your feedback. Please complete the bottom half of this page and return it to the school by Friday, May 26, 2017. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mme Peart
Vice Principal

Mr. Bonham Carter
Vice Principal

Please detach and return this form to the Acadie Office by Friday, May 26, 2017

St-Donat 2018

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 and learning more about a Grade 8 trip to St-Donat, Québec (for January 2018).

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

Additional comments/Questions:

Parent Signature _____

Date: _____

