



10th January 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The trip dates are from **Thursday 24th to Sunday 27th of October 2024.**

The price of the tour for 4 days is €780. Please note the number of places is limited to 40 pupils.

This price does not include the cost of the coach to and from Dublin Airport this will be sorted at a later date.

There will be an information evening provided for all parents of 2nd year students on Thursday 22nd February at 7.00 pm in the GPA area of the school. If you would like for your son / daughter to participate in this School trip please fill out all the details below online or bring this letter with you to the meeting.

The students of Athboy Community School have been given the unique opportunity to take part in a 4 day Interactive Science Programme. The programme will begin in the European Space Center (ESC) in Belgium. The theme is “**A day in the life of an Astronaut**”.

Saffron guarantees that a fully trained and professional teaching staff within the ESC is available to all students. They also ensure that all activities are safe. All the students are insured for all eventualities during their 4 day program. There will be Space Science tuition given that will be in keeping with new Junior Certificate science course.

A selection of other activities will also be included on the trip such as a visit to Technopolis interactive science museum. A visit to Breendonch, Concentration Camp. A visit to Efteling Gravity Park. A trip to Cologne to do the Cathedral climb and city walk about and Ten Pin Bowling, Ziplining and Water park.

A more detailed description is available on www.saffrontravel.org

Spending money could be around €80 for snacks at the airports to and from Belgium. Please ensure that your son/daughters Passport is valid and that you have your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). All passengers must apply for their EHIC before departure. We will be flying with **Aer Lingus** and it will be hand luggage only to a limit of (10kgs).

Saffron Travel ensures that 3 main meals are provided. Students will have extensive all you can eat buffet breakfasts. Dinner is provided at 3 different locations, a Local Hotel Restaurant or Hard Rock Cafe and at a Chinese Restaurant with an all you can eat buffet in each case.

An e-mail account is set up specifically for this trip. Parents will be informed of the payment dates of each of the next installments and will also be sent the itinerary for the four days.

(So please use email this address belgiumtrip2023@gmail.com). Log on as soon as you can, providing your son/daughters name as on their passport, date of birth, Nationality, Passport Number and passport expiry date. When you send email with your son/daughters passport details etc, Saffron Travels Bank details will be available soon. You can make your first payment of a **deposit €250, this will be non-refundable** as it will immediately go to cover the cost of booking the flights and Insurance. This payment link will be sent out to your email address before 21st March 2024. An example of a payment plan has been outlined on the next page.



Yours sincerely,

Mr. Liam Fox
(Head of Year 2)
Athboy Community School

Mr. Liam Mc Hugh (Tour Organizer)

Please Fill out all the details below.

Parent /Guardian Mum Dad or Both.

Contact number(s):  _____  _____

Student contact No.):  _____

Medical condition (if applicable): _____

Your son/daughters name as on their passport _____

Date of birth _____

Nationality _____

Passport Number _____

Passport expiratory date _____

Parent/Guardian contact number _____

Your email address _____

DATES:

24th – 27th October 2024

NUMBER OF NIGHTS:

4 Days / 3 Nights

LOCATION: Brussels / Cologne / Transinne
ACCOMMODATION: Saffron Approve Accommodation

TRANSPORTATION: Coach as required by Itinerary. Please note there may be a fuel subsidy to be added.

FLIGHTS: Aer Lingus or Ryanair

*Note: No flights have been booked or reserved. This quote is based on live flight information available today and is subject to fluctuation. Early booking is recommended to protect price.

INSURANCE: Quotation based on all pupils being under 18 at the time of travel up to including return. Any pupil that turns 18 at any stage during the trip will have to be upgraded to an adult policy and a supplement will apply.

PRICE Per student:
€770 for 50 students

- Payments are online and direct to Saffron Travel
- We will need a list of participants and a contact email for their parent/ guardian to send them the payment information
- This quotation is based on pricing available today and no flights, accommodation or services have been reserved or held for the group. Sometimes pricing can fluctuate, and we will advise of this at the time of booking.

Deposit Payment to Secure Booking €250

- Please Note when deposit is paid flights will be booked for the group
- Deposits are non-refundable in all cases should a place on the trip be cancelled.

Balance Payment Plan

- This will be confirmed with the lead teacher at the time of booking. Paid in installments with full balance to be paid 16 weeks before travel.
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- Payment Plan Example:
 - o Deposit €250 at the time of booking (secures flights)

 - o Balance spread over 2/3 further payments to be agreed at the time of booking
- Balance payments and cancellations during the installment phase is subject to normal booking cancellation charges which are published online for all account holders to be aware of when making their booking and signing up to the installment plan.
- There is also an option to pay in full which is subject to normal booking cancellation charges which are published online for all account holders to be aware of when making their booking and payment.
- Please note to secure price deposit payments must be made.
- At this stage no flights, accommodation or services have been reserved and are subject to availability at the time of booking.

School Policy on Over seas trips

As you may be aware the policy on overnight trips has been ratified by the Board of Management. This now means that the following conditions will apply from now on to all overnight trips.

- If you would like your son/daughter to participate in this Belgium trip science experience they must firstly have all their yearly school contributions/fees paid and up to date before the initial deposit is made for this trip.
- If it is the case that the trip is over-subscribed students doing science and those who have their deposit paid by **21st January 2024** will be given priority. After this deadline has elapsed a lottery will take place between the subsequent candidates.
- Also that all parents, are given clear notice of each of the cut off dates for the deposit and final payments.
- Payment will only secure a place dependent upon the student's good behaviour up until the date of departure. Organizing teachers reserve the right to prevent a student from travelling who has been involved in a serious disciplinary issue, or continuously causing trouble within the school.
- Behaviour on other organised school trips will be taken into consideration. In such cases subsequent payments will be refunded less the deposit up until two weeks before travel.

Permission Slip and Passport Details

Re:- Belgium trip Thursday 24th to 27th October 2024

Online Debit/Credit tranfer Payment Plan

Payments are to be made directly to **Saffron Travel** using an online banking link that will be emailed to you when you email belgiumtrip2023@gmail.com . Bank details from Saffron Travel will be emailed as soon as we have 30 plus students going. Payment is accepted from either debit or credit cards.

Initial deposit €250 paid by online link well before 19th of March 2024 **non-refundable**.

2nd Payment €185 by 3rd of May 2024

3rd Payment €175 by 5rd July 2024.

4th Payment €170 by 6th September 2024.

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I would like for my son/daughter to participate in the School trip to Belgium and give permission for him/her to do so.

Students name:-.....as on the Passport