



## KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL, BIRMINGHAM

### MADAGASCAR EXPEDITION 2016

Letter 3

#### **Confirmation of place**

To **PUPIL** and parents,

We are delighted to be able to offer you a place on the 2016 expedition to Madagascar! We will at this stage cash your initial cheque for £300, and we offer below some more detailed information about the payment schedule, our first meeting as an expedition team, and a few words about communication.

When applications closed at the start of May, we had 25 applications for the expedition, and we are able to offer 16 student places: these have been assigned, in the interests of fairness, in the order that applications were received. We will offer reserve places to the remainder, should anyone's plans change.

#### **Cost & Payment Schedule**

Thank you once again for your cheque on application: this initial payment of £300 will be sent to Opwall by way of deposit for the expedition, and will form the first of several instalments towards paying for it over the coming months. The overall cost is intended to be £3,000.

Our accountant will now make the payment scheme available on the school's page at [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com), detailing payments of £300 to be made by the end of each month from June 2015. There are three points to note:

- No payment is required in August or December 2015
- All payments will be completed by May 2016
- You can of course pay more than one tranche of £300 as you see fit, thereby getting ahead with instalments as suits you best

If using the 'School Gateway' system is not possible, cheques (payable to 'KES Trips') can be made out and deposited in the usual box instead; though either the online system or cheque is preferable to BACS or standing order payments.

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J Porter & D H Corns, Expedition Leaders

Edgbaston Park Road, Birmingham B15 2UA. Tel: 0121 472 1672. Fax: 0121 415 4327  
Email: [jp@kes.org.uk](mailto:jp@kes.org.uk), [dhc@kes.org.uk](mailto:dhc@kes.org.uk) Website: [keswildlife.weebly.com](http://keswildlife.weebly.com) [www.kes.org.uk](http://www.kes.org.uk)

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## First Meeting of the Madagascar 2016 Team

The entire expedition team will meet for the first time before the end of this summer term: an important occasion to meet other team members, receive detailed information about preparations, and to discuss 'fund-raising' (money making) ideas before the summer break. The agenda will include the following:

- Up-to-date itinerary
- Personal details & medical form
- Vaccinations
- Date of expedition training weekend (bring your diary)
- Kit list
- Fund Raising

The meeting will take place after school at **4:15 on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June in G1**. Drinks and snacks will be provided, and we should be finished by 5:00.

### Communication

In establishing an important trend over the coming months, we ask that students keep good communication about the expedition in what, for all of us, are busy school schedules. To which end, please *reply ('rsyp')* to [dhc@kes.org.uk](mailto:dhc@kes.org.uk) to let us know if you cannot attend the first meeting at the above date and time.

Future communications with students and parents will be primarily by means of your *preferred email addresses, which we ask that students in particular check regularly*. There is also the '[KES Madagascar 2016](#)' group on Facebook, which we encourage students to join for updates and as a way of communicating with each other about the expedition. Finally, though we will copy any formal letters to parents, we expect you to *keep your parents informed* of day-to-day updates regarding the expedition, and issues discussed at our first and future meetings.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

With best wishes,

David Corns & Jon Porter  
[dhc@kes.org.uk](mailto:dhc@kes.org.uk), [jp@kes.org.uk](mailto:jp@kes.org.uk)

9th June 2015

J Porter & D H Corns, Expedition Leaders

Edgbaston Park Road, Birmingham B15 2UA. Tel: 0121 472 1672. Fax: 0121 415 4327  
Email: [jp@kes.org.uk](mailto:jp@kes.org.uk), [dhc@kes.org.uk](mailto:dhc@kes.org.uk) Website: [keswildlife.weebly.com](http://keswildlife.weebly.com) [www.kes.org.uk](http://www.kes.org.uk)

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