

# 2017/18 MEADOWRIDGE International Trips



**International trips can significantly help learning and understanding of the formal curriculum of the classrooms as well as lead to a better appreciation of cultural differences.**

Through international travel, an individual can better understand history, science, language, and culture. Travel may also provide opportunities to expose individuals to unique experiences as well as provide opportunities to provide service.

Over time, international travel should provide students an ever-increasing level of complexity. Through distance traveled, time away from home, languages spoken in the visiting country, and by appreciating a variety of cultures, students experience a decrease in familiarity. As the distance and time away from home increase, the greater the psychological cost. Students may feel homesick, which is natural and helps build resilience. Where the primary spoken language is a language studied at school, students will feel stretched; however, since the language is familiar the jump is not overwhelming.

Complexity can also be increased by traveling to countries where the primary language is not studied and unfamiliar to the student. So traveling where English, French, or Spanish is not spoken would be even more demanding.

Culture also plays a role in establishing the level of difficulty. England and France have had a profound effect on the Canadian culture. Traveling to countries that were not colonies of England and France would allow students to experience different cultures. Traveling to countries where the culture is similar to Canada's, such as the US would not be challenging; however, non-colonial countries, such as Thailand would be very different.

Last year, after meeting with parents, students, and teachers, we updated our philosophy to better reflect why we travel. If as parent or guardian you have ideas to share, or as a student you are interested in participating on these unique experiences, please contact Mr. Niwa by email at [patrick.niwa@meadowridge.bc.ca](mailto:patrick.niwa@meadowridge.bc.ca). More information about travel dates and costs will be shared with parents and students in September.

Mr. Patrick Niwa  
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## 2017/18 International Field Trips

International trips can have many purposes. These purposes may be curricular, service, experiential, or cultural/linguistic.

### Grade 8 & 9

#### Eastern Canada Trip

[Ms. Stanley & Mr. Kennedy](#)

Students travel to Eastern Canada to visit Ottawa, Quebec City, and Montreal.

### Grade 10 & 11

#### France Trip

[Mrs. Pogrebinsky](#)

In addition to visiting the amazing sites of France students will also prepare themselves to write the DELF exams

### Grade 10 & 11

#### Spain Trip

[Ms. Zivec](#)

In addition to visiting the amazing sites of Spain students will also prepare themselves to write the DELE exams

Unfortunately, the trips to France and Spain are fully booked. Occasionally students are unable to travel, opening a spot. If you would like your child to be placed on the waiting lists, please speak with Mrs. Pogrebinsky or Ms. Zivec for registration documents.