

Dear Parent / Guardian

September, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

In our increasingly interconnected world, it is critical for our children/students to become more culturally aware and globally-minded. The IB program at Marymount Academy International is dedicated to this outcome. To experience the global classroom first-hand as well as make a difference to our world community, we are pleased to announce an exciting, educational trip **to China, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 to October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016** with EF Educational Tours and the Me to We Program! It will give our students new perspectives on themselves and the world around them.

Our trip is well-balanced: it has fun and essential work in it. EF is an established tour provider who has uniquely joined with the Me to We program to offer this life-changing experience. Once we have seen the sights, we will spend one week in a fully-supervised, morning-to-night stay within the Free the Children Community. We will become part of their 10-year-plan-implement volunteer network in China. If we so wished, we would be able to return to the same project in subsequent years to see the changes we have made and to help to further those changes. It could become a great Marymount International tradition.

But, before participating in this important volunteer work, we will visit some of the amazing sites China is famous for. We will tour Beijing and see Tiananmen Square and visit the imposing Forbidden City. We will go to Badaling to see the buried, stone army. We will also have the opportunity to practice tai chi, and learn basic Mandarin as part of the EF portion of the tour. This cultural-learning will be complimented through on-going, evening, community-cultural sessions at the school given by experts in their fields prior to the trip.

September 2016 seems so far away, but in setting this date, fundraising and depositing of funds will occur at a manageable pace. In such, this trip is open to our current secondary one, two and three students and to our future Secondary 1 students.

If you have a child enrolled at Marymount in grade 7, 8 or 9, or will have one enrolled for September 2015, and you if this trip interests you and your child will benefit from such an experience, we would like to invite you to meet us in **room 122** for an information and enrollment session on **Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.**

We have students already registered for the trip and we welcome you back for your next installment of \$400. The total cost of the trip is \$4,161 and will remain firm. But if you register on the 30th, you will receive a \$200 certificate towards the trip. Registration this evening will cost \$490.

We hope to see you at the school on the 30th.

Sincerely,

E Lagodich, Principal  
J Greto, Trip Supervisor  
A Fortier, Co-Trip Supervisor

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Please fill in this form below and return it to Ms Fortier, Rm 206, or Ms Greto, Rm 122 before the meeting. Please print.

I \_\_\_\_\_ parent/ guardian of \_\_\_\_\_

will attend the meeting on September 30<sup>th</sup>.