

8/25/08

- Whoever has not turned in two copies of their passport to Mr. Chapman needs to do so as soon as possible. If your passport has still not arrived, a note needs to be written and handed in to Mr. Chapman stating that it is on its way.
- Hamilton High School
 - Possible email pals from the school. Email addresses were turned in to Mr. Chapman to give to the travel agent to get them to the Hamilton H.S. kids.
 - The Hamilton H. S. kids will be invited to hang out with Murphy during any free time at the youth camp as well as during free/shopping time downtown.
 - These students will need places (homes) to stay when they come for a stay in 2009.
- Air New Zealand
 - Because of Air New Zealand rules, students are allowed two free check bags, though they are only allowed to bring one check bag (if needed) because the other will consist of an instrument, band uniforms, etc.
 - Though a check bag is allowed, because of frequently lost luggage on extended flights such as ours, as well as the difficulty of keeping up with it all, it is *recommended* that students pack lightly and bring only two *carry ons*.
- Band Uniforms
 - We will be bringing the marching uniforms. Four or five will be fit into a bag and go as checked luggage.
 - We will NOT be bringing the hats. Instead, we will be bringing the tuba berets.
 - Classy travel t-shirts as well as long sleeve polos will be made for the day of travel as well as some of the performances.
 - These t-shirts will have the names of all sponsors on the backs and will be given to the sponsors during half time at several different games.
 - The names of any more sponsors that would like to be added to the list need to be brought to Mr. Chapman IMMEDIATELY.
- Rehearsals And Performances
 - There will be an all day rehearsal on Tuesday, October 14, as well as two more rehearsals on Wednesday and Thursday, October 15 and 16 during fourth block.
 - There will be an important parent meeting following the Tuesday, October 14 rehearsal at 6:00 P.M.
 - The band will also rehearse with the students from Hamilton H.S. at Hamilton.
 - While in Australia, there will be a Mobile presentation by the Murphy Band including tunes such as “Stars Fell on Alabama,” etc.
- October 17/18 (leaving Mobile)
 - The Australia Band will leave the MGM game (Friday, Oct. 17) early after third quarter break, travel back to Murphy on a separate school bus, and pack and load all of the equipment in preparation for the following morning.

- The flight Saturday morning (October 18) is at 7:15 A.M. from the Mobile Airport. Be there NO LATER THAN 6:15!! (I know it's early. Mr. Chapman is trying to make it later than that if at all possible, mostly to avoid such a long layover in Atlanta, but you will have *plenty* of time to sleep on the plane!)
 - There will be a long layover and time for a breakfast in the Atlanta Airport (HUGE airport with many, many, many restaurants)
 - You can bring (and it is recommended) snacks for the long layovers and for on the domestic flights (meals will be provided on the extended flights).
 - NO MORE THAN three (3) ounces of liquid of any sort (gels like mascara, etc. included) are allowed on the flights (excluding items bought in the airport once through security). Every three ounce or less outside liquid MUST be placed in a clear quart bag and kept out of the carry-on until you have passed security (this is because of past bomb fears).
- Australian Money and Exchange Rate
 - If you want to have Mr. Chapman order you some Australian currency, give him \$25.00-\$50.00 in USD before contest (this is not mandatory).
 - Visa debit cards are recommended for a trip such as this. They are the cheapest means of exchange and are accepted everywhere. They are not credit cards, they are check cards and only the amount of money placed in the account can be spent so you cannot go into debt (good thing to keep to keep in mind).
- Phone and Internet
 - Cell phones are available to purchase in Australia, but they are rather expensive and can only be used to call places in Australia (NOT Mobile).
 - The travel agent will be lending his cell phone to Mr. Chapman so that students can call Hamilton H.S. students.
 - Internet will be available at a local primary school for about an hour a day to keep up with work and turn it in to teachers (a performance will be given at the primary school for thanks). GET TEACHERS' EMAIL ADDRESSES!
 - Laptops CAN be brought, but a converter will have to be bought in Australia to be able to charge them. (Not recommended, however)
- Coming Home (October 29)
 - When we arrive in Atlanta (Mr. Chapman is attempting to make us able to leave our luggage with Delta overnight), we will take only our carry-ons to the hotel outside the airport and get a good night sleep.
 - Get good sleep because we will be 12-13 hours off (Jet Lag!)
 - Be at airport by 6:30 to catch 8:15 A.M. flight to Mobile.
 - A school bus will meet us at the Mobile airport to take us back to Murphy (we will stop for a nice brunch somewhere on the way).
 - We will arrive back at school to rehearse the field show for the McGill game on the 31st (Halloween!!).
- Make-up Work
 - Teachers can have as much fourth block time as they need when we return for

make-up work.

- If students need help with homework while in Australia, they can ask teachers at Hamilton H.S. (though maybe not for help with U.S. History :)).

- Youth Camp in Cockburn

- Students need to bring pillows, sheets, and blankets/sleeping bags.

- Academy Sports sells an excellent sleeping bag for \$25.00.