

SALTUS GRAMMAR SCHOOL
PEMBROKE 5-35 BERMUDA

19th April, 1989

Dear Parent(s)

I hope your son has now fully recovered from our recent trip to England! We felt we had to write to say how pleased we were with the attitude and behaviour of all the boys throughout the tour.

They were a pleasure to be with and we constantly had praise for them from hosts and the general public we came into contact with.

When you asked them what they did I am sure they answered in very general terms (this is normal for boys) so please find enclosed some brief highlights of the tour as seen through staff eyes, it may give you a better idea of what we did and also jog your son's memory!

Yours faithfully,


Jon Beard, Richard Raistrick, Derek Jones

Thursday

Mr. Beard picks up Timmy from his soccer tournament cup final and whisks him off to the plane - temp 68° (15 hours later he was playing in 40° F in England!)
All on time - staff amazed.

Friday

Smooth flight - excellent landing - captain explains that he is retiring after our flight so we were able to come straight in - otherwise we would have been in a 30 min holding pattern!
Bus from plane to airport. Weather fine.
Bus from airport to St. Pancras. Arnold waiting for us with his sister, Robin - true to male form he virtually ignores Robin when we arrive! Staff make him say goodbye properly.
Train to Leicester. Great excitement as five girls get into the same carriage as us. Typically nobody says anything to them until they are getting off - and then there is the usual argument on who the girls probably fancied most!
Arrive at Leicester station, meet Mr. Raistrick, Mark & Kevin. Staff get mini-buses and cars organized.
Drive to Melton Mowbray. Soccer match won 2-0, goals from Diallo & Bilal.
Refreshments after game.
On to Uppingham and the moment arrives (!) who is sharing with who! Boys leave with hosts - many with looks of great concern on their faces!

Saturday

Boys meet up - looking very tired but happy - hosts are spoiling them! Weather very cold.
Basketball team lose opening game 87-69 against Don Boscoe School, of Belgium (who were also visiting Uppingham). Players were caught out by rule differences and physical nature of the game.
The Soccer team also played Don Bosco, and their game finished up with a 1-1 draw, Arnold scoring for us early in the game. Despite dominating the game and creating many chances we were unable to stretch the lead, and then gave a penalty away late in the game.
The game was made even more memorable by Squinty who was asked to go to the nearby shop to get something for half time drink. Mr. Beard and Mr. Raistrick were left speechless (a very unusual happening!) when Martin came wondering back with a soda syphon!
Mr Raistrick commented "I'd send you to get some cups - but you'd probably come back with crystal glasses!"
After the games we hop on a bus and go to Villa Park. Excellent game saw Villa defeat Luton 2-1. Staff cannot understand why Richmond is acting as a waiter - getting pies and drinks for the boys.
Return to Leicester. Go to Fish & Chip Shop for meal.
Mr. Raistrick attempts to fix faulty mini-bus with Super Glue - Mr. Raistrick almost becomes a permanent part of his mini-bus.

Go on to watch semi-final of the English basketball tournament - Leicester v Manchester. One mini-bus is stunned into silence as Cory expresses concern that our basketball team will be too tired to play in the game! His misunderstanding is revealed to the staff and he receives that days "Spike" award and has to carry the stuffed dog with him.

The basketball game was entertaining - mainly for its exceptionally violent side. Leicester turn out narrow victors. Return to Uppingham, dropping boys off to their respective hosts on the way.

The following events go down in tour legend as the Belton fiasco: We arrive at a meeting point in Belton village so Mr. Beard takes the boys who can remember where they live to their hosts. Martin is convinced he lives near Richmond. Mr Beard spends an hour driving into every driveway in Belton to find the home. Eventually he drops him at Richmond's host who promise to find out where he should be. A weary Mr. Beard arrives in Uppingham, where he receives a 'phone call from the same host - who informs him that Martin is in fact in the wrong village!! His hosts are waiting for him at another place - Mr. Beard goes to fetch a very apologetic Martin!

Sunday

Boys get a lie in. 1:30 start. Meet at 1:30 - one boy is accompanied by girls - who have apparently suddenly expressed an interest in male sport.

Weather now colder than most boys have ever known it.

Soccer v. Blackstone Utd., Stamford. Incessant rain, hand, feet & ears numb. Half-time Cory puts his hands in his tea, he is so cold - convinced he is going to die! Lose 4-1. Bilal scoring. John hit the post with a header, and we squandered some good chances.

In basketball an excellent performance gave us a 67-60 win over Northampton School for boys. The players learned very quickly to adapt to English rules and put in a solid performance. Derek Hurdle was the days top scorer.

Boys return to hosts for evening - Mr. Beard drops Martin off at correct home. Martin, of course, has "Spike".

Monday

Meet at 9:00. Stories of the previous night are rampant. Bilal couldn't find the Gents etc.

Travel to Weavers School, Wellingborough. Good performance led to 87-67 win. Another good performance - Derek Hurdle was too strong for them and played about 1/2 the game - nevertheless he scored 30 points.

Lunch at the school. Staff enquiry as to where the 1200 pupils are at lunchtime is explained - they have to leave the premises as staff refuse to supervise them.

On to Peterborough. Ice Skating. Bilal ensures himself of the "Spike" award as, to avoid knocking over a little girl, he picked her up and travelled the length of the rink on his back.

Shopping - and Richmond's subservient ways of Saturday were explained - he lost some of his money on the plane.

Boys take Peterborough shops by storm!

On to Stamford. Soccer v Stamford Town. Won 4-1. Goals from Bilal, Jeffrey, Diallo and - Scott! Scott's goal is greeted by celebrations, the likes of which have probably never been seen before at Stamford.

Return to hosts

Tuesday

Morning starts with stories - Martin favourite for "Spike". Weather even colder than before. Visit to Leicester City - very interesting.

Mr. Janes takes group bowling - alleys set to open next month! Lunch in Pizza Hut - Leicester shops amazed at what hits them. Games v Uppingham. It is now snowing hard! Soccer played in conditions that might as well have been on another planet! Team nevertheless plays very well. Musceo is even laughing throughout the game. They score in first and last minute. In between Richmond scored, as did Bilal. Mr. Beard and Mr. Raistrick have to be defrosted. What was Kevin doing?

Basketball - defeated Uppingham 84-64. A brilliant opening spell saw us go 27-4 up and Uppingham never recovered. Many of the soccer players got some time on court.

Martin earns "Spike" reprieve as Stan, trying to hit Kevin with a snowball, hits Mr. Janes - is awarded "Spike".

We host small reception for our hosts.

Wednesday

Worst weather to date. Very cold, very wet, snow/rain - miserable. Late start - soccer is cancelled by our opponents (obviously they are not use to this weather!)

Indoor basketball & soccer tournament.

Roller skating

Cinema

Onto MacDonald's for dinner

Richmond in blind panic - he's lost his pouch with his remaining finances - it is found around his waist - "Spike" awarded.

Leicester City's game is cancelled!!! Soccer players return home.

Basketball team go to Corby for 8:30 start - Again the team played very well and led for most of the game. However, this older Corby side applied good pressure late in the game and we were edged out 84-82, although many players complained about the physical contact on court.

Thursday

Meet at 9:15 to leave for London. Hosts wax lyrical about the excellent behaviour of our boys - can they book some for next time? Staff speechless.

Some of the boys have obviously socialized very well!

Train to London.

Taxis to hotel. Check-in. Catch taxis to Waterloo. Train rerailment means we cannot go to station we need. Dwayne sick

through travel sickness?

Get train for nearby station. Diallo almost misses it as he went to the "Gents". Staff find it difficult to believe - especially as he has a pizza in his hand!

Arrive at Richard Challenor High School Malden Manor.

Excellent soccer match finishes 2-2 with two goals from Arnold.

John, Martin and Bilal all miss chances - but nevertheless enjoyed by all.

Basketball won fairly easily, although many of their players are involved in soccer. Final score is 91-64 and Derek Hurdle scores 42 points.

Staff talking to their opposing colleagues are told of their recent skiing trip where they met some Bermudians - staff inform them it was our Junior School. Leave with them muttering something about Jetsetters.

Simon has letter from young lady in Uppingham!

Friday

Mr. Beard takes small group to Wembley.

Rest of the day shopping. London shops taken by storm. Richmond advised by staff not to become an accountant.

Tour dinner: Soccer MVP- Musceo. Basketball MVP-Bobby. Soccer Most Goals-Bilal. Basketball Most Points-Bobby. Soccer Most Improved-Paul. Basketball Most Improved-Lyle. Tour Personality-Martin. Cory gets "Spike"- for trying to smash his way through barriers on the underground-forgot to enter his ticket.

Saturday

Most boys penniless

Leave hotel at 9:00. Check in at Victoria. Train to Gatwick.

Fly home. boys who are awake go on flight deck. Bilal wins Grand National Sweep-a chance to repay some debts!!

Arrive home-tired-but a good tour.