

## Senior Girls

Merchant Taylors' Schools  
Liverpool Road, Crosby, Liverpool L23 5SP  
Telephone: 0151 924 3140  
Email [j.baccino@merchanttaylors.com](mailto:j.baccino@merchanttaylors.com) [www.merchanttaylors.com](http://www.merchanttaylors.com)  
Headmistress: **Mrs CA Tao MSc BSc (Hons) Grad.IPD**  
Headmistress's: PA: **Mrs J Baccino**



**MERCHANT  
TAYLORS'  
SCHOOLS**

For Boys and Girls  
aged 4 to 18 years

June 2018

Dear Parents,

### **NASA's Johnson Space Centre, Houston, Texas, USA 20<sup>th</sup> October – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

We would like to offer your daughter the fantastic opportunity of joining us on a school trip to NASA's Johnson Space Centre, Houston, Texas, USA. The trip is a comprehensive five day study of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths centring around a mission to land a rover on the surface of Mars. Students will be given the chance to develop a range of new skills by analysing rock samples, working within a budget and completing astronaut training and dive sessions. They will work alongside astronauts and engineers, within NASA laboratories and take part in a truly memorable experience. The trip previously ran in February 2017 and was a great success. The Physics department were impressed with the high educational content delivered. The girls who attended were given a once in a lifetime experience and graduated from NASA's Space University with happy memories and a vast range of newly developed skills.

The trip will be open to girls who are currently in Year 8, 9, 10 and 11. There is no requirement that students must be studying Physics however, if places are oversubscribed then students who are likely to opt to study Physics at a higher level will be given preference.

The trip is scheduled to depart from the UK on **20<sup>th</sup> October 2019**, during half term and arrive back in the UK on **27<sup>th</sup> October** (exact details and times of flights will be confirmed when released by the travel company). The cost of the trip has been estimated at £2100. This is likely to fluctuate slightly due to air fares, and it should be noted that this does not include visa costs and spending or snack money. Once in Texas however, all meals are included. This cost also has a built in contingency fund, which after the trip will be returned to parents if unused.

An initial deposit of £200 is payable upon return of the consent form below. A payment plan will then be set up with a range of options. You should note that upon acceptance to the trip the first deposits are forwarded to the tour company and are then not refundable. Cheques should be made payable to "Merchant Taylors' Girls' School" and handed to Mrs Lynch in an envelope clearly marked with Texas 2019, your daughter's name and form. Due to time constrictions, if you would like your daughter to be considered for the trip, deposits should be paid before **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018**. If any students would like to attend but feel they would struggle with the cost of the trip, please contact Mrs Lynch as soon as possible as there is subsistence available for pupils who meet certain criteria.

This is an exciting, highly educational trip on which your daughter will experience a wide range of activities developing a number of important skills. A brief outline of expected activities upon arrival in Texas are listed below.

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### Day 1

Check-in at Space Centre Houston  
Starship Gallery Tour  
Rover Design & Parts Testing  
Space Suit Design with a JSC Engineer  
Pizza and Movie Night

### Day 2

Neutral Buoyancy Lab Tour  
Rock Lab & Curatorial  
JSC Tram Tour / Rocket Park  
Dinner and Bowling Night

### Day 3

Mars Lander Design & Construction  
Astronaut Training & Dive Session  
Evening Dinner & Kemah Boardwalk Excursion

### Day 4

Rocket Design & Purchasing  
Rocket Construction and Presentation  
Evening Dinner & Shopping Excursion

### Day 5

Rover Obstacle Course & Launch  
Lunch with an Astronaut  
Graduation Dinner & Awards Ceremony  
Further details regarding the trip can be requested via email – [j.lynch@merchanttaylor.com](mailto:j.lynch@merchanttaylor.com)

Yours faithfully  
Mrs J Lynch  
Physics Department

.....  
To be returned to Mrs Lynch

### **Houston, Texas Reply Slip to Mrs J Lynch**

I would like my daughter ..... Form ..... to be considered for the Houston, Texas Trip, October 2019.

I enclose a deposit cheque of £200 made payable to 'Merchant Taylors' Girls' School' in a clearly labelled envelope.

Signature of Parent/Guardian ..... Date .....