



Congleton High School

Achieving Success Together

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BA (Educ) Hons, NPQH

May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Rome Choir Trip – March 2023

I am able to offer a wonderful musical opportunity to your child. This trip to Rome just before Easter 2023 will not only give your son/daughter a chance to soak up the fantastic culture but, even more impressive, they will be able to perform as part of Congleton High School Choir on at least two occasions in this historic city. The date of the trip is likely to depart on 28th March 2023.

A rough outline of the trip includes

Day 1

On arrival, we will be met at the airport by a guide and private coach and transfer to our central hotel. After dinner we will have a walking tour of the **historic centre** taking in all the famous sights. We start at the **Spanish Steps**, a congenial spot to relax, sit on the steps and people-watching. Continuing our tour, we soon reach the **Trevi Fountain**. A water source existed on this spot since Roman times, but it wasn't until the mid-1700's that the fountain we see today was completed. It is traditional to toss a coin into the fountain to ensure a return to the Eternal City. We next cross the **Via del Corso**, one of Rome's principal shopping streets, and soon reach the **Pantheon** which was built by Hadrian and later converted to a church. The Pantheon has an incredible domed roof and houses the tombs of the artist Rafael and also Victor Emmanuel II, the first King of a unified Italy. The tour concludes in the wonderful **Piazza Navona** where we can admire Bernini's fountains.

Day 2

The second day is likely to include a visit to the **Vatican** and a tour of **St. Peter's Basilica**. The majesty and size of the Basilica is truly unforgettable and there are many treasures and artworks, including the famous Pieta sculpture by Michelangelo and Bernini's magnificent Baldachin over the Altar. Perhaps the most fascinating is Bernini's final masterpiece, the Monument to Pope Alexander VII. The Pope is surrounded by the allegorical statues of Justice, Prudence, Charity and Truth, with the Angel of Death holding up the curtains over the Door to Eternity.

After lunch we have your **First Concert Performance** which will either be at a city church or local school. In the afternoon we will have more time to explore Rome. Dinner this evening will be a city centre restaurant.

Day 3

On this third day we will have a tour of Rome's most famous sight. The sheer scale of the **Colosseum** never fails to impress, and our guide will bring to life the Gladiatorial combats where over 50,000 spectators watched gladiators fight.

Leaving the Colosseum, we pass by the **Arch of Constantine** which was built in the fourth century AD and commemorates Constantine's victory over Maxentius. We then enter the ruins of the **Roman Forum**, with its many temples, basilicas and triumphal arches. This was the place where ordinary Roman's would have lived, worked and traded, and there are many varied reminders of their lives including many new artefacts

still being excavated. Above the forum you find the **Palatine Hill** which looks over the Roman Forum and the Circus Maximus, the ruins of its ancient palaces once the home of emperors and the site of temples. Today the Hill is cloaked in beautiful cypress trees and wild flower meadows.

After lunch we have our **Second Concert Performance** which will either be at a city church or local school. In the afternoon we can visit the **Vittorio Emanuele Monument**, also known as the Altar of the Fatherland. Take the lift to the top for a fantastic panorama across the city. Dinner this evening will again be a city centre restaurant.

Day 4

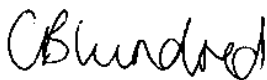
On this final morning our guide will accompany us for further sightseeing in Rome. We could visit the **Circus Maximus** where Roman chariot races took place. We could then place our hand in the **Mouth of Truth**. We can then explore the lively **Jewish Quarter** and the **Campo di Fiore** with its flower and fruit market. After time for lunch we transfer to the airport for our homeward flight.

The full cost is likely to be around £700. If you are experiencing financial difficulties please contact me at school cblundred@congletonhigh.com or Mrs Triner in the finance office ltriner@congletonhigh.com

Anyone wishing to attend the trip will need to be a regular member of the School Choir. If you have not yet taken part in the choir - you are still very welcome to join. We rehearse during lunchtimes on Thursday and Friday.

To secure a place on this fantastic trip simply return the reply slip below to Student Reception by Friday 27th May. If this trip secures enough interest a deposit of £200 will be required so that flights can be secured.

Yours faithfully



Miss C Blundred
Curriculum Team Leader Music

Reply Slip - Rome Choir Trip – March 2023

Student Name: Tutor Group:

I understand that I will need to pay £200 deposit before the end of the Summer Term if the trip is confirmed.

Signed: Dated:
Parent/Carer