

June 1, 2009

Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you rested from your hosting experience and excited about your child's imminent departure for Germany. I would like to update everyone's information before we meet at the airport this Sunday because there have been changes in our flights and flight numbers. Please keep this updated information with the itinerary you received at the information night in April. I will hand out all tickets at the airport, and please be sure to double check that you have your passport easily accessible in your carry on luggage as you will need it for check in.

The following students will be departing on the first flight out of Medford with **Berlyne Spillane**. They should arrive at the airport no later than **11:25 am**.

Spencer Anderson	Jessica Clement
Lauren Angel	Brock Cory
Brandi Bigelow	Davis Darnall
Cashel Cain	Holland Foley
Rebecca Casebolt (returning July 14)	Berlyne Spillane
Cassandra Carothers	

		Departure		Arrival	
UA6571	7 Jun 09	Medford	13:25	San Fran	15:02
LH 459	7 Jun 09	San Fran	21:05	Munich	17:25
LH 230	8 Jun 09	Munich	18:50	Berlin	19:55
Return Flight					
LH 468	29 Jun 09	Frankfurt	9:55	Portland	11:30
UA 6553	29 Jun 09	Portland	18:27	Medford	19:31

The following students will be departing on the second flight out of Medford with **Debora McCreedy**. They should arrive at the airport no later than **2:20 pm**.

Alexander Gentry	Emily Reeder
Kira Heycke	Jeffrey Reeder
Dane Irving	Valerie Savercool
Jordan Jackson	Kate Traister
Derrick Martin	Debora McCreedy
Lindsay McCreedy	

		Departure		Arrival	
UA6574	7 Jun 09	Medford	16:20	San Fran	18:00
LH 459	7 Jun 09	San Fran	21:05	Munich	17:25
LH 230	8 Jun 09	Munich	18:50	Berlin	19:55
Return Flight					
LH 468	29 Jun 09	Frankfurt	9:55	Portland	11:30
UA 6553	29 Jun 09	Portland	18:27	Medford	19:31

Here are some important details everyone should check and recheck with their child before coming to the airport on Sunday.

1. Luggage and packing: Many of you may have taken note of the number and size of the bags of the German exchange students upon their departure on Friday. I hope you also noticed how difficult it was for them to lift the bags even onto the scale, let alone above their heads. They could only afford to bring so much luggage because they aren't using public transport. We will be using subways, buses, and trains, and I assure you that we will be highly unpopular wherever we go if we take up every last speck of space in the train car. So please, pay attention to the weight and size of the single bag you will be bringing.

I have never traveled with more than 35 lbs in my main bag, and I urge you to aspire to similar frugality. Only pack clothes that **mix and match**. Do **NOT** bring entire bottles of shampoo and such. Pack clothes that can be **rinsed out** in your hostel sink and will then **dry quickly**. Limit yourself to **two pairs of shoes**. Weigh your bag, and if it is over 35 lbs, consider what you can leave behind. Bring a collapsible tote bag if you think you will be purchasing a lot in Germany so you only have to worry about extra luggage on your return.

2. Money and security: Bring a **money pouch** (waist or neck) for when we are in Prague. Bring a **lock for your bag** in your room if you will have valuables (I-Pod, cell phone, camera...) because we have had such things stolen from the hostel rooms before. However, do **NOT** lock your bag at the airport. It has to remain open for inspections along the way. Be sure to **call your credit card or debit card company** immediately to inform them you will be traveling in Europe and making withdrawals from there. Do not bring anything on the trip that is too precious to you to lose.

3. Final Exams, check out and book sale: Your students will be taking their final exams this **Thursday and Friday**. There is a link to the schedule on the St. Mary's website if you are curious or anxious. Students will also need to check out on **Thursday between 2:00 and 3:00 pm**. They will not be cleared for leaving early until they have officially checked out. They should receive their yearbooks at this time. They will also need to arrange for a sibling or parent to sell back their books for them next week on **June 9 and 10 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm**.

4. Items left from the exchange: Finally, if you have leftover items from your German exchange student, I will be sending a large box to Germany with the 12 sweatshirts the group ordered from Margie Dode. You are welcome to add your labeled forgotten items to the box.

5. Luggage tags, emergency cards, and parent packets: I will distribute all the **luggage tags** for the students at the airport with the addresses of the hostels. I will also hand out **emergency cards** to the students with instructions for what to do in case they get separated from the group. Finally, I will have **information packets** for the parents with copies of students' passports, tickets, and an updated itinerary. It will include our emergency cell phone numbers.

That is all for now. Please feel free to contact me at school or home if you have questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing all of you this Sunday at the airport.

Sincerely,

Debora McCreedy

dmcreedy@stmaryschool.us

St. Mary's School: 773-7877 and at home: 779-4585