

Hello Parents and Families of Westmount Grade 10, 11 and 12 Students! (i.e., will be in these grades in the fall of 2010) -

It is with great pleasure that I announce to you that the plans for **Ecuador 2011** are under way. Since the board review indicated an overwhelming support for our international adventures as a school we are in go-ahead mode for next years trip. This year's trip will be co-led by Westmount teachers Julie Jansen and Murphy McMaster. All plans at this point are pending final board approval, but due to timing we do need to get things rolling. To that end, I am writing to inform you that there will be a parent and student information meeting, this coming **Thursday, June 17th at 6:30 pm** in the Band Room (#139) at Westmount.

This meeting will cover our current itinerary plan, estimated costs, trip goals, teacher leaders and the student selection process. Because of our delayed start to the planning phase, we need to work fairly quickly to get caught up to where we should be. The plan at this point is:

- Thursday, June 17th- Information meeting and hand out application packages (packages are also attached to this message in case students would like to get started on their applications)
- Wednesday, June 23rd- Student applications due to Mr. McMaster's mailbox in the main office (by the end of the school day, no exceptions)
- Friday, June 25th- Group of 21 successful applicants informed, waitlist established
- Monday, June 28th- Deposit and post dated cheques for payment and initial paperwork due to indicate commitment to take part
- September- All other paperwork, another parent information session to outline the year plan and weekly (plus) meetings of the student group

It is strongly recommended that candidates and their parents attend the meeting as there will be former participants, leaders, the travel agent, administration and the current leaders on hand to answer any and all questions. If for some reason you or your child are unable to attend the meeting this Thursday evening, please contact me at murphy.mcmaster@westmountcharter.com with questions on the information package.

Please feel free to email me with any questions you may have regarding the meeting also. We are very excited about the trip and looking forward to working with you over the next year to make our adventure a life changing experience for everyone involved!

Sincerely,

Murphy McMaster

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