23 May 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

**Mandarin Twilight**

We are writing to inform you we will be continuing with the exciting enrichment opportunity we started in September 2018 for students in current Years 8-12 at Rickmansworth School. We introduced Mandarin as a twilight lesson using the My Chinese Teacher programme. Live and interactive lessons taught by Beijing based Chinese teachers are broadcast directly into the classroom. Each week there has been a 25-minute session with a Beijing based Chinese teacher and this has been supplemented by trained staff members at Rickmansworth who were provided with follow-up and review activities to align with each session.

Chinese is not as hard as you might think, and in fact technology is making it much easier. In addition, knowing Mandarin Chinese opens a learner up to vastly improved job opportunities and enables them to function as a bridge between an emerging China and the outside world. The future of the world will likely be shaped by the billion-strong population of China, and it is indeed a hugely useful move to learn to speak to these people and understand their culture.

The maximum number of students to whom we can offer this fantastic opportunity is 25 and we will need a minimum of 20 for it to run. The cost of this course for students is £125 which would be payable in advance and includes the weekly interactive lesson with the teacher in Beijing as well as the follow-up session with a member of Rickmansworth School staff and all resources. If we are able to run a group of 25 students the cost will be reduced to £100 per student. Further information can be found at [https://mychineseteacher.org/](https://mychineseteacher.org/).

Please note that in order for us to provide this course, we must have a minimum of 20 students; and are unable to take more than 25 students. As such, unless 20 students sign up and pay deposits, the course will not run; likewise, should we receive more than 25 applications/requests, we will randomly allocate places and be in contact for deposit.

If you would like your son/daughter to either carry on with or opt into this programme, we would be grateful if you could return the attached form by Monday 3 June. We will then be in contact in order to allocate a place for you son/daughter and request a deposit by Monday 10 June. Please note that we are able to pay for the full cost of the course for students in receipt of Pupil Premium funding. Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Ms S Streatfield
Head of Faculty
Modern Foreign Languages
To: Miss S Streatfield  
Re: Mandarin Twilight

Student Name  ............................................................................................................

Form & Teaching Group  ............................................................................................

☐ Having read and understood the details of the visit as set out in the letter of 23 May 2019, I wish my son/daughter to participate in Mandarin Twilight.

☐ I confirm that if my son/daughter is offered a space, payment will be made by the deadline as outline in this letter.

Parent Signature ...........................................................................................................