

## ***Christmas Q & A for Dormitory Residents***

### **Q: When is Christmas break this year?**

A: On the [Dormitory Portal](#), click on the Dorm Calendar section (in a box on the right.) At the top, you will see a link for the *SCLA International 1-page calendar*. This calendar gives a quick view of all “No School” dates. It includes dorm openings and closures. NOTE for students in Choir or Band: Participation in the Christmas concert is a *requirement* of choir and band classes. Book your flight after the concert.

### **Q: How long is the break?**

A: The Christmas break is approximately 2 weeks long.

### **Q: Can I stay in the dorm over Christmas break?**

A: No, the dormitory closes down over the break to give staff members a break, too. The week before Christmas break you will complete your weekend plans which will include the place(s) you will stay over Christmas break. The Dormitory Director will confirm these plans with your parents the week before break via weekend plans.

### **Q: What if I live overseas and can't fly home?**

A: International students may request a homestay over the break. Mrs. Julian runs the homestay program and will send out information about October 1. The deadline to apply for a host family is October 15.

### **Q: Can I get a ride to the airport?**

A: Yes, shuttle service is available to dorm students who complete the *Christmas Flight Plans* form on the [Dormitory Portal](#) by the deadline.

### **Q: How much does the shuttle cost?**

A: It is free to dormitory students.

### **Q: What is the deadline to get a shuttle?**

A: You must complete the form by December 1. On that day, the form will be closed. After that, you must arrange your own transportation.

### **Q: What if there isn't a shuttle on the day I want to fly?**

A: You should consider rebooking your ticket for one of the dates/times listed on the *Christmas Flight Plans* form. We encourage students not to miss classes for break. In rare cases, this becomes impossible. In that case, email the Dormitory Director to

request permission and arrange your own transportation to/from the airport at your own expense.

**Q: I'm younger than 15 and need to fly Unaccompanied Minor. Will St. Croix help me with this service?**

A: Yes, Mrs. Julian will assign escorts/drivers for students who are **required** by their airline to fly Unaccompanied Minor. Please follow these steps:

1. Book a flight for one of the approved shuttle dates/times found on the *Christmas Flight Plans* form on the [Dormitory Portal](#). (A UM flight must take off before dorm closure time, which is usually noon on the second shuttle date.)
2. Complete the *Christmas Flight Plans* form.
3. Email Mrs. Julian to tell her that you have filled out the flight form and need a driver assignment. If your airline assigned a Personal Identification Number (PIN) for the UM service, be sure to include that in your email.

**Q: I'm an international student. Do I need to do anything with my I-20 before I travel?**

A: Before you leave school for travel, look at page 2 of your I-20 to make sure you have a valid signature. The page 2 **signatures are valid for 1 year**. If you think the signature is out of date, contact Mrs. Julian immediately for assistance.