Dear Parents/Guardians,

I'm pleased to announce an exciting field trip to Bermuda during Spring Break- April 2026. We will be staying at Bermuda's <u>BIOS</u> (*Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences*), which will offer students a



truly unique opportunity to blend discovery with adventure in one of the world's most breathtaking natural settings. Surrounded by crystal-clear waters, coral reefs, and vibrant marine life, participants step beyond the classroom into an immersive environment where science comes alive. At BIOS, learning is hands-on and authentic—students work alongside real scientists, engage in fieldwork, and collect and analyze data just as professionals do. I was able to customize an itinerary that includes activities such as snorkeling, native plant restoration, collecting and analyzing microplastics, exploring limestone caves, and marine robotics. This experiential approach fosters deeper understanding, sparks curiosity, and builds practical skills that last a lifetime. More than just a trip, I hope this will become a transformative experience that will connect students to the wonders of the natural world while inspiring future pathways in science, sustainability, and exploration.

WHERE: Bermuda Institute for Ocean Science (BIOS) on Bermuda

WHEN: Spring Break April 11, 2026 through April 17, 2026 (may shift by one day)

COST: Approximately \$3,000 (This includes roundtrip airfare to Bermuda, roundtrip transportation to JFK airport, room and meals (3/day) at BIOS, BIOS excursions, lab/lecture/boat fees, transportation on the island). Plane tickets will be purchased in December. Not included in the cost is dinner in town *(one or two nights)*.

Payment Schedule (subject to slight modification based on price of flight and itinerary changes)

November 6, 2025	\$600
December 4, 2025	\$600
February 5, 2026	\$600
March 5, 2026	\$600
April 2, 2026	\$600

APPLICATION PROCESS: Interested students will be asked to complete an application that details their educational interest in the trip and their swimming proficiency since there will be several snorkeling excursions. The application (completed through the Bermuda 2026 Google Classroom page) needs to be submitted by **INSERT DEADLINE**. Accepted students will be notified by **INSERT DATE** and required to pay the online deposit of \$600 through Infinite Campus and submit a color copy of their passport by November 6, 2025.

If the student later decides not to attend the trip, as much money as possible will be returned to the student from BIOS provided another student is able to take that student's spot. The policy for the airline ticket cancellation will be determined once the airline is chosen and flights are booked.

We will be hosting an informational meeting on DATE at TIME at LOCATION. I hope you will come and learn more! In order to attend, you must RSVP. You can do so by scanning the QR code and choosing 'attending' or 'interested', or visiting this link: Insert link to Google form

Respectfully yours,

Insert QR code here

Elisa Brako Trip Leader AP Biology, Biotechnology, and Biology Teacher Faculty Advisor to GAINS Club and Eco Club

Micheal Docker

Faculty Chaperone Extraordinaire

Marine Science, Biology, Environmental Science, and Agricultural science teacher Faculty Advisor to Oceanography Club and Fishing Club