Dear Santa,

We're writing to you from the heart of Europe from a little country's (Hungary) little town, named Székesfehérvár. We're an average 17 year-old student, who are in his 3rd year at high school.

We live the every-day life of an average teenager. We like the school which we attend, and simply love our class. It's a remarkable community, the atmosphere is awesome, and we stand by each other both in good and bad, and when we do that, we are unstoppable. It's like a big family, but we won't talk about this more, because you know exactly how it feels to belong somewhere.

We have a super form teacher and in the first lesson in every September the question is: where we'd like to go on excursion. Although there's always fighting about where we should go, because everyone has an opinion of a good trip, there is one thing everyone of the 28 classmates agrees. Everybody loves nature and snow, which comes with winter, but even more the combination of these two. A lot of us have never been to any of the foreign ski-paradises and hasn't even seen too much snow, because even though we have cold weather a lot of times, snow only falls every now and then. That's why it would be a dream come true to go to the snow-capped mountains of Austria.

We're thinking of a 5-day trip, to one of the most beautiful regions of Austria, Gastein Valley. It's a worldwide-known region in the Alps, and offers a great variety of activities for those who want to relax or are interested in other nations' cultures. It's the perfect place for us, to bond together even more. We are planning this trip not only to have fun, but also to learn things.

On the first day of the excursion, after the 6 hour-long bus-trip and the settling in one cosy wooden house beneath the mountains we would have a rest. At night we would go to the city for some sightseeing, explore the landscape and after we've done that we'd return to our chalet, and sit down around the fireplace and talk with hot-chocolate in our hands. The next day for some relaxation we'd go to the area of the Gasteiner Heilstollen, where a little cave train runs. After arriving, we'd lie on the deck chairs in swimsuits, and refresh by the radon-containing air. This kind of treatment is very good for our health. This day would be all about leisure and relaxation that's why as next destination we would go to Alpen Therme Bad Hofgasteine which is a health and recreation centre. We'd relax at the steamy outer lake while enjoying the miraculous view. On that magical third day, we'd start what most of the people who come here would do: skiing. After climbing the Stubnerkogel hill and some ski courses, we'd roam the beautiful snow-capped mountainsides, and to end the day we'd cross the 140 meter long and 300 meter high suspension bridge which is stretched between two mountain peaks. On the fourth day we'd visit the Hohe Tauern National Park where we could try a mountain railway, have the chance to do some sports and also look at one of the 55 chalets. This is a full-day activity which we would spend with learning. In the evening we'd return to the valley and visit one of the family restaurants where they make home-style food from farming goods. Besides the delicious food we could watch the process of bread baking and the traditional way of cheese making. On the fifth and last day we'd visit the city of Klammstein where we'd not only learn about the history of the castle the art of hunting, and minerals but could be taught the tricks of playing curling.

After these eventful 5 days only the journey home would be left and we could tell everyone how great and adventurous a week we had together.

Dear Santa, this is how we imagine our dream excursion.

Please help us to make our dream come true . : -)

Love: Mark Kelemen and Csaba Magyar
and class 11 B Jáky Secondary School Székesfehérvár