

Jessica Lane, Year 8

RE: Antarctic exploration

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To: NickSmith@hotmail.com

Morning Nick, how are you? I've rather exciting news... I am to join an exploration led by Ernest Shackleton to the Antarctic! And, better yet, there is still a space open! I really think you would be perfect Nick! What with all your heavy work at the docks, you're more than well enough to manage the journey I'm sure! I've no doubt as you read this, you're thinking of those posters talking of a hazardous trip with no safe return and the like, but I'm sure those are just exaggerated to filter out cowards and weaklings. We would be perfect!

Can you imagine? Sailing through the seas into uncharted territory, making and breaking records! We would return champions! And they got dogs to I heard. You love dogs Nick. It'd be like having your own pack, and your missus couldn't complain, could she? We'd be fed every day I think, cause they'd want to keep us good and strong. And I heard that all exploration ships have enough rum to fill a house! I suppose you'll know about all that anyway, from the docks, but surely, it'll be ten times as wonderful as what comes in from overseas cause people are going to fund it right. I mean, it'll be glory for the nation wont it, so they're sure to sponsor Shackleton.

And Shackleton too Nick! Have you heard what they're saying about him? Apparently, he's the best captain the world's ever seen. John told me that he turned back his ship last time cause he figured out the crew would starve. That means he'll look after us well. And he's smart and experienced. Nothing could go wrong!

Really mate you'd be cheating yourself if you didn't at least apply!

Send my love to Julia,

Best,

Roddy