



Headteacher: **Mr J Grant**

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July 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

French Educational Visit to Paris

Payments

Many thanks for making regular payments in accordance with the monthly schedule, or already paying the balance in full. Can we remind you to make the final £60 payment by Friday 4th September. Can I ask that any previous outstanding payments are up to date by Monday 20th July or that you contact me at school if this is not possible. The original payment schedule is included at the end of the letter.

Itinerary

The itinerary for the trip is presently being finalised and will be confirmed at the pre-trip briefing. Precise times are to be confirmed but we are likely to depart from school around 8am on 17th October and return to school around 9pm on 21st October. We have group bookings in place for the Louvre, Versailles, Parc Astérix and the river boat cruise. The Eiffel Tower can only be booked 3 calendar months in advance so we are hoping to secure that in the final week of term. Other sightseeing is likely to include Montmartre/Sacré Coeur, Notre Dame and other places of interest in central Paris.

Pre-trip briefing/KS4 presentation evening

We will hold a pre-trip meeting for all parents and students to give out all relevant information and answer any questions. This may coincide with and immediately follow a presentation evening to all year 9 parents about KS4 to save you coming in twice. As I write the date for this is yet to be confirmed but is likely to be mid-September. Confirmation to follow.

Passports and EHIC cards

If your child is travelling on their own passport can it be brought along to that meeting and handed in for storage in the school safe to ensure we have it before the day of travel. Please also double check that the passport has not expired.

Whilst all students are fully insured we do require that they have a valid EHIC card. Can this too be brought along to the meeting.

(You can apply online via: www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcareabroad)

There are 38 students and 4 staff participating in the trip; myself, Mr Leahy, Miss Vance and our French Language Assistant Miss Bour Lang. I have attached further notes for your information and thank you in advance for reading them through. Any such letter will not be exhaustive so please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions.

Yours sincerely

Mr Ian Green

Paris Trip Leader

igreen10@wsgfl.org.uk



What to take

School uniform is not required. Students should take warm clothing, a waterproof jacket, suitable footwear for wet weather and a fair amount of walking, suitable nightwear, a towel, soap and a wash bag. Trainers and shorts may be useful: there are recreational areas at the centre so there may be opportunities for games – time and weather permitting.

Students will only be allowed 2 bags. One is to be stored in the hold while travelling and a small 'hand luggage' bag to take onto the coach. Bags stored in the hold cannot be accessed until we arrive at the campus in Paris. Cameras and mobile phones may be brought, but remain the responsibility of the child. Any expensive items (iPod etc) should be left at home. Lost items are unlikely to be covered by insurance.

Eating Arrangements

If you have not informed me already, please pass to me in writing any special dietary requirements that your child may have. Please note that we cannot ensure that preferences are met. Students with any dietary allergies should consult a member of staff before consuming any items about which they are unsure. At the campus, it is expected that all students attend breakfast and dinner at the time specified and behave in a manner appropriate to that situation. It is a self-service canteen facility with a choice of food. The highest standards of behaviour are expected at meal times at the campus, all the more so as we may be sharing with other schools.

The first meal provided is dinner on the Saturday evening and the last is breakfast on the Wednesday morning. Lunch money or picnic lunches will be provided on each of the excursions on the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. However students should bring a packed lunch for the outward journey and money for lunch on the journey home after the visit to Versailles.

Safety

1. **Travel.** We will be travelling by coach and shuttle. Seat belts MUST be worn at all times on the coach.
2. **Campus.** Students must remain in their rooms once told to do so at night. Behaviour around the campus must be of the highest standard, in particular no running or loud behaviour inside the buildings.
3. **Staff Supervision.** The visits will be carried out in supervised groups. However, students will be given periods of free time to explore eg around Montmartre and to go around Parc Astérix. During such times, the whereabouts of a member of staff will always be known to students and they will have contact numbers with them at all times. Students will be required to be in groups of a minimum of three at all times.
4. **Visits.** The Sacré Coeur in Montmartre and Notre Dame are religious buildings and silence will be required when visiting. Equally we will be expected to be extremely respectful when going round the Louvres and Versailles.
5. **Inappropriate Purchases.** The following items are either illegal or represent a risk to students. They are not to be bought on the trip or purchased at any point: knives, flick-knives, flick-combs, guns (replica or real), bangers, fireworks, matches, lighters, tobacco, alcohol and laser pens. Any such items discovered by teachers will be confiscated and not returned. Students may not buy any of these items as presents for adults either. This list is not exhaustive so if students are in any doubt about the appropriateness of any purchase, they should consult with a teacher first.
6. **Behaviour.** We want enjoyment to be a focus of this trip, but it's good fun in the right way. Students are required to interact politely with all other students, staff and members of the public. They must follow staff's instructions without question, conform to the standards of behaviour set in school and follow all rules set out for the trip. Failure to do so may result in loss of any privileges on the trip and exclusion from further school trips.
7. **Money.** All currency for use in France must be changed into Euros before the trip, as access to facilities will be limited. Students may wish to buy souvenirs, presents, a drink etc and some

lunch on the journey home. The amount is at parents' discretion. Please note that the excess on our insurance policy means that any money lost by students will not be recoverable.

Learning

This is an educational visit and will require that students complete a study booklet. A small number of students are not continuing with French to GCSE but will still be expected to complete work set and this will enhance their experience. The trip has a full itinerary comprising many of the main tourist sites in Paris and so classroom time will be limited. It is expected that after dinner each evening time will be allocated to explanation and completion of the tasks in the study booklet and free time will be dependent upon this being done properly.

Accommodation: Campus Sainte-Thérèse
Avenue Erasme
Rond point de l'Europe
77330 Ozoir La Ferrière

Rooms

All rooms are en suite and most are for 4 people but some may be for 2 or 3. We will allocate rooms shortly before going once we know what rooms are available.

Payment Schedule

Deposit	£70	Friday 6 th February
1	£70	Friday 6 th March
2	£70	Monday 13 th April
3	£70	Friday 8 th May
4	£70	Friday 5 th June
5	£70	Friday 3 rd July
6	£70	Friday 4 th September