



Re-founded 1555

Ripon Grammar School

Engineering Specialism within a Grammar School



10th March 2017

Dear Parents,

Re: SECOND YEAR NORMANDY TRIP 2017

I am writing to update you regarding the planned trip to Normandy this summer, for which your son or daughter has a place reserved. By now, it is hoped that parents will have paid at least £100 towards the total cost (£530) of the trip. I would like to remind all parents that the final balance is **due by Friday 7th April**. If you have kept up to date with payments so far, this will entail a final payment of £430. Please feel free to pay instalments earlier or in combination. We request that all payments be made through the Parent Pay system. The total price of the trip remains unchanged at £530. If your son or daughter is no longer coming in the trip, **please inform me immediately**, as there are pupils on a waiting list for spaces.

Dates and travel arrangements

The trip will depart from the bus parking area opposite school, on **Friday 21st July** (the day that the summer term ends), probably around 23:00. We will travel overnight in two coaches to Portsmouth, before taking a ferry to Ouistreham, from where it is less than an hour to our destination the Chateau du Molay near to Bayeux.

On the return journey, we will depart the Chateau early on **Thursday 27th July**, arriving back at Ripon Grammar School in the evening, probably around 21:00.

Itinerary

During the trip there will be a series of excursions to sights such as Bayeux (to see the famous tapestry), Arromanches (to see the beaches used in the D-Day landings, as well as the war cemeteries), the beautiful Mont Saint Michel, and the cities of Caen and Le Havre. We will also visit a small theme park, and try our hand at bread or chocolate making at culinary workshops. The majority of these visits will be carried out by half of the group at a time, since each of the two coaches will have a separate itinerary, although there will be moments when both groups meet up. I will issue a precise itinerary during the summer term.

Accommodation

The Chateau du Molay is owned by the company Travelbound, and is set away from major roads and within its own grounds. We are likely to be one of only two school groups staying there, and there are no other guests. Students sleep in dormitories of varying size, from four to nine in a room. They will be informed of the available rooms and the numbers in each room in June, in order to facilitate them organising themselves into friendship groups. Breakfasts and dinners are taken together in the dining room. Allergies and dietary requirements are managed very well by the Chateau kitchens. Packed lunches are provided each day.

Headmaster: Martin Pearman, MA(Oxon), CChem, FRSC

Address: Clothierholme Road, Ripon, North Yorkshire HG4 2DG Telephone: (01765) 602647 Facsimile: (01765) 606388

Email: admin@ripongrammar.co.uk Website: www.ripongrammar.co.uk



Administration before departure

Please can parents ensure that their son or daughter is in possession of a passport which will be valid for the dates of the trip. It is also important that all pupils have a valid EHIC (European Health Insurance Card). This is free and can be obtained quickly online. I will be writing to you again in late April to issue medical, dietary and information forms, and to inform you of timings for an

Information Evening, which will take place in mid-June. At this meeting, all passports, EHICs and forms should be handed directly to me.

If you have any concerns about the cost involved for this trip, please contact me at school to discuss the matter in confidence, either by calling school or by emailing chamberlaint@ripogrammar.co.uk. I hope that your son/daughter is already looking forward to the trip.

Yours sincerely

Mr I. T. Chamberlain
Head of Modern Foreign Languages