

Friday 10th July 2015

SECOND YEAR NORMANDY TRIP 18th-23rd JULY 2015

Dear Parents,

This is a final letter prior to our departure to Normandy in a week's time. Firstly, I would like to confirm the departure and arrival times:

Depart from the Ripon Grammar School bus park at 01:00 on Saturday 18th July (please be there by 12:30 in order to load the bus)

Arrival back at the same place at 23:55 on Thursday 23rd July. I will use the phone chain established during the Parents' Information Evening to pass messages on regarding our exact arrival time, as it may change.

On the night of our departure, I will be standing with a head torch on, near to the back of the bus park, ready to collect medication if your son/ daughter has anything they need to take during the trip. It would be helpful if this were handed over in a sealed plastic bag with their name on. Any other items to be handed to me should also be clearly named.

The excursion programme remains unchanged from when I issued it at the Parents' Information Evening, but I include it below. Note that it includes Mr Auger's contact details, to be used in case of emergency only. It also includes different contact details for the bus company.

I now have passports, but there are still 19 pupils who have yet to give me their EHIC card. I will have told these pupils at our meeting on Friday 10th July. If your son or daughter was one of them, please can you send in an EHIC card with them as soon as possible.

Regarding packing, I have updated the list below. Note that all pupils need a towel and soap for their stay at the chateau since these are not provided by the chateau. I have also had questions relating to the fancy dress, asking about a theme. There is no group theme – the staff have a theme, but that's top secret!

Continued overleaf

Some parents have contacted me to enquire regarding the unsettling situation in Calais. Travelbound have assured me that they will re-route us via a different ferry port if Calais becomes impassable or impractical. They have already successfully done this, during the last strike. We hope very much that this will not be necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Mr I. T. Chamberlain

Itinerary – 2015 Ripon Grammar School 2nd Year Normandy Trip

Saturday 18th July

01:00 Depart school
08:25 Arrive Dover
09:25 Depart Dover
11:55 Arrive Calais (now on French time)
17:00 Arrive Chateau

Sunday 19th July

Coach 1

10:45 Peace Memorial de Caen
14:00 Arromanches 360
15:00 Omaha Beach and American Cemetery

Coach 2

10:00 Arromanches 360
11:00 Omaha Beach and American Cemetery
14:00 Peace Memorial de Caen

Monday 20th July

Both buses will drive to the Mont St. Michel for 10:00.
We will then go to the Ange Michel Theme Park.

Tuesday 21st July

Coach 1

11:00 Chocolaterie des Marianiks
13:00 Honfleur

Coach 2

11:00 Honfleur
14:00 Chocolaterie des Marianiks

Wednesday 22nd July

09:00 Depart chateau
09:30 Bayeux market assignment (£3)

Coach 1

13:30 Bayeux Tapestry
15:30 Return to the Chateau for activities
Swim

Coach 2

14:00 an activity at the Chateau
16:00 Bayeux Tapestry
Swim

Thursday 23rd July

08:30 Depart Chateau
15:05 Arrive Calais
16:05 Depart Calais
16:35 Arrive Dover
23:55 Arrive school

Contact Details and Contingency

Mobile phones

Mr Chamberlain's school mobile phone will be 07908 700949. It will remain constantly charged, constantly on, and always at hand. Emails are less likely to be answered as I will only occasionally have access to internet (and it's a very old phone!). If you receive contact from my personal mobile phone number (which I prefer not to publicise), this is simply due to the fact that I can type more quickly on it!

Mrs Lyons' school mobile phone will be 07947 701639 and will also remain on for the duration of the trip.

Emergency contact at Ripon Grammar School

The school's emergency contact is Mr Auger. His school mobile phone number will be 07837 336446.

Contacts in France

Chateau du Molay - Route d Isigny, 14330, Molay Littry, Normandy, France. The Chateau's number is 0033 231214551

Transport contacts:

Our coach company is JH Coaches. Tel: 0191 410 4107

Where and when

Please drop children off at school from 12:30am (middle of the night) in the early hours of Saturday 18th July. The buses will probably park in the bus turning area opposite the school's main entrance, so while it may be possible to park there, please park to allow the coaches free access.

We will be arriving back at the same place on Thursday 23rd July shortly before midnight. In order to ensure that we get everyone picked up at the right time, pupils with phones will call parents when we are en route. If your son/ daughter has no phone with them, could you liaise with another family to get news of delays/ advances to our schedule on the return journey?

Phone chain

Those who were at the information evening will know that I have taken the numbers of 10 volunteer parents, who in turn will text c.9 families to pass on any important information. You had to be there to get your number onto the list. If you want to be added, please contact me with a mobile number (email below).

What to bring:

- Something to eat for breakfast/ lunch during outbound journey, or money to buy these at service/ on the ferry.
- £80 in euros will suffice easily as spending money
- Swimming kit (boys, you can wear shorts, it's ok!)
- **A towel and soap for the chateau (these are not provided)**
- Something to keep you warm/ dry in case the weather is not perfect. Also suncream/ sunhat
- Shoes you can walk around in for long periods – we're doing a lot each day!
- Entertainment for the long journeys
- Fancy dress costume for the competition!

Make sure it all fits into one bag, to go into the coach's hold. In addition, a **small** bag will be permitted in the coach.

Thank you!

Mr Chamberlain - chamberlaint@ripongrammar.co.uk