

Wednesday 5th December 2018

SECOND YEAR NORMANDY TRIP 2020

Dear parents of First Year pupils,

I am writing to all parents of our current first year pupils to invite them on our exciting trip to stay at the Château du Molay, in Normandy in the North of France, just before the end of the summer term in their **second year**, from **Friday 10th July 2020** to **Thursday 16th July 2020**.

Please note that, while the trip has traditionally taken place after the end of the summer term, during holiday time, the growth of the trip has led to a decision for it to place during school time. There are a number of benefits to this, but the main advantage is the opportunity to develop several aspects of the school curriculum through the excursions on the trip, as well as to promote social development.

This is a trip which has taken place for many years, and has always been extremely popular. Accommodation will be at the fantastic Château du Molay, a castle owned by the company Travelbound, who are organising the trip. The purpose of the trip will be to learn more about the French language and culture, as well as looking at the history, cuisine and economy of Normandy. Our historical perspective charts the region from Norman times (with a visit to the Bayeux Tapestry and William the Conqueror's castle) through to the Second World War (with a very exciting day's visits to the sites of the D-Day landings, and associated museums and memorials). We dedicate a day to visiting various food producers in the area, including an apple press, a dairy farm, a caramels factory and a snail farm. There will also be an opportunity for a different focus as the chateau has its own outdoor swimming pool, and organises evening games, discos and competitions. The exact makeup of the itinerary will be decided nearer to the time of the trip.

Travel will be by coach, driving to Portsmouth overnight, and crossing the channel by ferry, returning by day on the last Thursday of term. It is important to note that, while very close to the end of term, pupils will be expected to return and attend our final day of term's Commemoration Service on Friday 17th July, along with the rest of school.

The total price of the trip, including transport, all meals and accommodation, and all visits and activities, will be **about £540** (it is unlikely to exceed this amount, but given how far in advance we are planning the trip, there may be a slight change in the exact price). **Places are not limited on this trip, but we do ask you to pay your deposit of £40, via Parent Pay, by Wednesday 19th December to confirm that you wish your son/ daughter to go.** This deposit is non-refundable.

There will then follow an instalment of **£60 by the end of June 2019** and the remaining balance of **£440 will be** due by the end of the Easter term the next year (**April 2020**). Please note, these second and third payments must be made through the Parent Pay system. If you have any concerns about the cost involved, please contact me at school to discuss the matter in confidence.

Yours sincerely,

Mr I. T. Chamberlain

Head of Modern Foreign Languages