



To Parents of Children in Year 6

Friday 22 November 2019

Dear Parents

Year 6 Leavers' Trip to Normandy: Monday 18 May to Friday 22 May 2020

One of the highlights of your child's time in Year 6 will be the residential study trip to France in the Summer Term. It is a busy and enjoyable stay with lots of variety. The children have the chance to try out their French and experience a little of the French way of life. They are encouraged to observe cultural differences, interpret signs and undertake simple French conversations in shops and the market.

However, the purpose of the trip is not merely linguistic. More particularly, as a natural progression from the visit to Osmington Bay in Year 5, it is an important social experience for the children to have a prolonged stay away from home, in a pleasant atmosphere amongst their friends. They learn self-organisation, independence, tolerance and generosity when sharing living space with a large group of people. It is excellent preparation for those who will be starting to board and a growing-up process for all as they go on to their senior schools.

Last, but not least, the visit has an important historical perspective. The children learn about the Norman Conquest and broaden their knowledge of the Second World War, with particular reference to the D-Day Landings and the liberation of Normandy.

In the itinerary, we plan to include as many of the following visits as possible:

- The Bayeux Tapestry Museum.
- The 360° Cinema - film of the D-Day landings at Arromanches.
- The Juno Beach Centre – the Canadian base during WWII.
- The Medieval castle in Fougères – the largest in Europe.
- Market visit – where the girls can buy a few souvenirs and practise their French.
- A traditional crêperie - where the girls order a crêpe in French.

To complement the cultural and linguistic aspects of the trip, we also aim to spend some time taking part in some exciting PGL-run activities around the site.

The dates for this academic year's trip will be **Monday 18 May to Friday 22 May 2020** inclusive. We will be departing very early indeed on the Monday (4:45am) to catch an early ferry, and arriving back late on the Friday (probably between 10:30 and 11:30pm). It is planned that the trip will be accompanied by four members of Manor staff.

After the success of our French Trip in the last five years, we will be returning to the 19th century **Château du Tertre** near Ambrières-les-Vallées in Southern Normandy, a site run by PGL. The château, which is strongly French themed, stands in 70 acres of grounds comprising fields, woodlands and is close to the river Varenne where we will be canoeing.

Part of the preparation for moving on to secondary school is that children should learn to feel comfortable without home contact, so children will not be allowed to take personal mobile phones or other electronic devices. You will be able to follow our adventures on a daily basis as there will be regular reports from France on the website and on Twitter.

The cost of this year's visit will be £543 including all travelling costs, full board and accommodation, insurance cover, entrance charges and pocket money.

These visits have been extremely successful in the past and we actively encourage every child to take advantage of this opportunity. To confirm that you agree to your child's participation, please would you print off and sign the slip below and return it to your child's form teacher by **Monday 2 December 2019. Please note that the form requires the signature of both parents as this is for a residential trip.**

There is no need for you to send a deposit now. The first payment of £150 will be added to your Spring Term fees, **unless you notify us by Monday 2 December that your child will not be participating.** The balance will be added to your Summer Term fees. Please note that once this deposit has been paid, it is non-refundable as the school has to confirm numbers with PGL.

We will be writing to you again next term with further details and to confirm passport, visa and EHIC arrangements, and a meeting for all parents will be held in the Summer Term regarding the trip. As the situation with Brexit remains undecided, the government has issued advice that passports will need a minimum of six months left on them from the date of your arrival at your destination. We will update you on this issue if recommendations change in the meantime.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any queries regarding our French trip.

We look forward to another happy and rewarding trip!

Best wishes

Anne Spikes
Head of French

Neil Jackson
Head of Years 5 and 6

YEAR 6 NORMANDY TRIP Monday 18 May to Friday 22 May 2020

Please print off, sign and return to your **child's form teacher** by **Monday 2 December 2019**.

Please note that the signature of **both parents** is required below.

We have read the letter dated 22 November 2019 regarding the Year 6 residential trip to Normandy in May 2020 and hereby give consent for our child,

..... in class,

to participate in the trip. We agree to the sums outlined in the letter being added to our bills for the Spring and Summer Terms.

Signed:

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(Father)

Please print name:

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Signed:

.....

(Mother)

Please print name:

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Dated:

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