

23 September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL TRIPS – PARIS/BELGIUM

We are pleased to announce our intentions to run several different foreign trips over the coming academic year and into 2023-4.

This letter provides you with the basic information for each trip and, initially, we would like to gauge interest. The reply slip with this letter is simply a guide for us to ascertain the relative popularity of our proposals. If we have sufficient interest we will run one or both trips. If the trips are oversubscribed we may choose to run the same trips the following year to accommodate all of those wanting to go.

A detailed letter and email will go out within the next two weeks for each trip once we have numbers and a confirmed cost. At this point we can only provide a guideline price which will be subject to inflation. You are probably aware that all of our trips are very carefully scrutinised for price as we do our very best to keep prices as low as possible without impacting either quality of experiences for the pupils or duration. Both trips have been very popular in the past and we have many years experience in running them.

Trip 1 Paris including Disneyland Paris - 3 Nights (Guide price £450)

This trip is aimed at Year 7 and 8 pupils. Dates given are only a guide as they are dependent upon accommodation availability.

- The first is a long weekend leaving Friday, 14 July 2023, departing from school at early evening/late afternoon to travel down to Dover for the last ferry with DFDS to Calais.
- Breakfast in the Disney village on Saturday, 15 July and then a full day at the Disney parks.
- In the evening we would then make our way to the nearby B&B hotel and stay there for two nights with three pupils sharing per room with ensuite.
- Breakfast at the hotel. We would then have a day sight-seeing day in Paris starting at Sacre Coeur, going down to the Latin Quarter and the Notre Dame cathedral area. We will leave there after 1.30pm to be dropped off at the Bateaux Mouches for the river cruise. The pupils would then walk over to the Eiffel Tower and go up it. We would then get picked up from there to go to an early evening buffet in Paris. Following this, we will drive over to the Montparnasse Tower and have about 90 minutes to take in the sights from the viewing station at the top.



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2.

- Travel back to the hotel for the second night.
- The following morning we would leave after breakfast. We will head back to Preston via Vimy Ridge to visit the tunnels and the WW1 trenches, returning to school on Monday, 17 July 2023. (A packed meal for the journey home will be provided)

Trip 2 Belgium and Paris - 5 Nights (Guide price £750)

Dates given are only a guide as they are dependent upon accommodation availability. This trip is aimed at Years 8 to 10. We would aim to take this trip around 22 June to 27 June 2023.

This second trip combines the above Paris trip with Belgium. The Belgium section of the trip would be three days and two nights based near Bruges after completing the same as above with the exception of Vimy Ridge which would be completed on the return to Dunkerque or Calais.

The first days' itinerary are as Trip 1:

- We would depart from school at early evening/late afternoon to travel down to Dover to get the last ferry with DFDS to Calais.
- Breakfast in the Disney village and then a full day at the Disney parks.
- In the evening we would then make our way to the nearby B&B hotel and stay there for two nights with three pupils sharing per room with ensuite.
- Breakfast at the hotel. We would then have a sight-seeing day in Paris starting at Sacre Coeur, going down to the Latin Quarter and the Notre Dame cathedral area. We will leave there after 1.30pm to be dropped off at the Bateaux Mouches for the river cruise. The pupils would then walk over to the Eiffel Tower and go up it. We would then get picked up from there to go to an early evening buffet in Paris. Following this, we will drive over to the Montparnasse Tower and have about 90 minutes to take in the sights from the viewing station at the top.
- Travel back to the hotel for the second night.
- The following morning we would leave for Belgium after breakfast.

The trip would spend the third and fourth nights using Bruges as the base.

- We would visit the historical sites within the city, taking in the Belfry, Burg square, the amazing chocolate shops and a canal cruise to gain a fantastic perspective of the historical city. We would aim to visit FC Bruges and the Abbey School, two connections we have had for over 40 years.
- After a full breakfast and a packed meal provided, we would travel over to Ypres, visiting the First World War trench systems and the Cloth Hall, reliving the lives of those involved in WW1.
- On to the Commonwealth Graveyard at Tyne Cot which is always a highlight of the Belgium section of the trip.

3.

- After a meal, we would participate in the Last Post ceremony for the Unknown Soldiers of the War at the Menin Gate. We have participated in the ceremony many times in the past. A small group of pupils would have the opportunity to lay a wreath for the Lancashire Regiments and Pals who lost their lives in the Great War. We would again have enough time to visit a chocolate shop where we are guaranteed great prices and amazing chocolate!

If these trips are of interest to you, please complete the reply slip below and return it via your child to myself in Hu4. As stated earlier, the reply slip is designed only to express your interest in either trip and does not mean you have made a commitment, nor does it secure a place.

Once we have received sufficient responses, we will issue a letter which then asks if you wish to commit to the trip and its payment schedule. A parent/pupil meeting will be held in school at a later date to provide a full itinerary, collect in passports, medical information and of course answer questions.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Watters
Lead Teacher of Geography
Trip Leader

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REPLY SLIP – INTERNATIONAL TRIPS DECLARATION OF INTEREST (Please return to Mr Watters in Hu4)

Name of Pupil: _____ Form/Year: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING TRIPS (PLEASE TICK)

PARIS

PARIS & BELGUIM

Parent Name (please print): _____

Signed: _____ (parent/guardian) Date: _____

Email: _____