

23 September 2010

Dear Parents

Sixth Form French Exchange 2010

I am writing in advance of the outward leg of the Sixth Form French Exchange next month. I am expecting our visit to Normandy to be a profitable one and to provide a significant boost to pupils in preparation for the imminent AS orals and IB mock orals.

Travel Arrangements

As communicated previously, the revised travel arrangements are as follows (all times local):

Outward travel – Saturday 16 October

Depart Portsmouth (Brittany Ferries)	08:15
Arrive Caen/Ouistreham	15:00

We will be meeting in the continental ferry terminal building at 7am. The school will provide vouchers to cover the cost of breakfast on the ferry, but you will need to provide either a packed lunch or money for your son or daughter to purchase a midday meal.

Return travel - Friday 22 October

Depart Caen/Ouistreham	08:30
Arrive Portsmouth	13:15

I would expect to be through customs into the main ferry terminal by 13:45. If your son or daughter will be making their own way home or be collected by somebody else, I would ask you to send me an email or letter to that effect in advance.

Parental Consent and Information Form

You will need to complete the customary parental consent form enclosed with this letter. The form should be returned to me at school by **Friday 1 October**. If there are medical or dietary matters which require further clarification please inform me of this by email or post so that I can fully brief the host French family, if necessary. I would also draw your attention to the section on conduct during the trip and ask that you would reinforce this to your son or daughter.

Programme and Outward Leg

My colleagues in the French partner school are putting the finishing touches to the programme for our visit. Activities during the school day will include a guided tour of selected works in the Louvre, a workshop at the renowned Mémorial museum in Caen and time experiencing the very different atmosphere of lessons in a French lycée. The initial weekend and subsequent evenings will be spent gaining invaluable cultural and linguistic immersion in the life of a host family. In this regard, I would re-iterate that your son or daughter should not be expected to pay for any food or transport during this time. In relation to the host family, it would be nice if your son or daughter could take a small present for them and they should know that it is more customary in France to give this upon arrival rather than upon departure.

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Contact Details

I will be accompanying the group, along with Mrs Gozalbez. Should you need to contact us during the stay, we will have two school mobile phones with us. The numbers are as follows:

Mr Gamble (please try this number first): 07738 958318

Mrs Gozalbez: 07738 958317

I trust that the above deals with any questions or concerns that you may have on the subject of the French exchange. If however, you wish to discuss these or any other matters between now and the departure of the exchange, please do not hesitate to contact me by email (p.gamble@pgs.org.uk) or via the school's main telephone number. For your information, I will also be holding a briefing meeting with pupils prior to the exchange.

Yours sincerely

Paul Gamble
Head of French