

Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015

*Dear Parents, Carers, Boys & Girls*

**YEAR 7 RESIDENTIAL VISIT TO CHÂTEAU DE LA BAUDONNIÈRE – NORMANDY 2016**  
**Harrold Priory, Lincroft & Margaret Beaufort Schools**

We are planning our annual residential visit to the Château de la Baudonnière in Normandy open to all Year 7 students in the Sharnbrook Academy Federation. Following previous successful experiences, including the Normandy experience, this is an excellent opportunity for the students from across the three middle schools to get to know each other, take part in some fantastic activities and improve their French.

We will be visiting the Château de la Baudonnière, in the La Manche region in Normandy from the **10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016** (after the Easter holiday). Last year over 100 students went and had a fantastic time and the Château more than lived up to our highest expectations. The Château provides an excellent setting for improving your child's spoken French, whatever their ability. It nestles in 90 acres of its own grounds with extensive outdoor facilities and comfortable modern rooms.



Students are offered a variety of activities including canoeing, climbing, archery, fencing and bread-making, using French as the target language. All the activities are led by experienced French instructors who teach students the necessary language involved and make each activity fun as well as educational. The day excursions planned this year are to go to a French market and Mont St Michel where the students will have a chance to practice their skills and do a spot of shopping and sightseeing. In addition, the students visit one of the beautiful Normandy beaches where they have a chance to relax or to play with friends for the evening.

Every year we see the children come away with improved spoken ability and understanding in French and this has had a really positive effect on their learning in lessons. In addition, we believe that the first class opportunities provided at the Château for learning the language will promote your child's general interest and motivation in modern language learning.

For more information on the activities offered by this trip, I would also invite you to visit the Château's website on [www.the-chateau.com](http://www.the-chateau.com).

## **PAYMENT DETAILS**

The total cost for this trip will be £510. We have an option for 140 places across the three schools and we fully expect all places to be taken up. We know there will be a high demand with each middle school having a proportion of places allocated according to the size of the Year group. In our opinion, this represents good value for money, as this covers all meals at the château, all of the excellent activities, entrance costs and travel costs. Pocket money and meals en-route are not included.

We would like to invite you to return the reply slip and a deposit of £90 to secure a place for your child on this trip by **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015**. The deposit is non-refundable unless we are unable to offer your child a place. Once places are allocated there will be 4 further instalments of £105 which are due by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015, Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015, Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016 and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016**. If full payment is not received by **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016** the place will be forfeited and any payments made to date may not be refunded.

Once your child is allocated a place they will be issued with a confirmation letter. Payment can be made in instalments (as per dates in letter) using our secure internet payment system. If you would like to make a payment online please contact Mrs Boddington for your online access code. Alternatively, you can pay by cheque (made payable to Lincroft School), by credit/debit card over the phone or cash. Should we be over-subscribed, places will be drawn by lot.



## **OUR EXPECTATIONS**

In line with our code of behaviour, we expect all our students to behave as our 'ambassadors' when on visits. We, therefore, reserve the right to refuse a place, or withdraw the offer of a place, should we have concerns about a child's ability to cope with the very high expectations for attitude and behaviour. This applies particularly to the students effort and attitude to learning in language lessons, which we expect to be above average to be considered for a place on the visit to the Château.

We do not operate on a first-come-first-serve basis for residential visits because we appreciate that parents need time to consider the benefits of a stay away from home. For this reason, the deadline for returns is **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015**. Should we be oversubscribed, places will be drawn by lot (and any deposits returned). All students must have their own full UK passport or a full national passport with the right to travel to France from the UK. Please inform Mrs Boddington, the educational visits administrator, if you child holds a non-EU passport as it could mean they require a visa. Each pupil will also require a valid European Health Insurance Card.

We will write to you with more precise details and the itinerary once numbers have been confirmed. Please return the reply slip to your school. Please do not hesitate to contact the School trip leader (see below) should you require further information at this stage.

**All paperwork should be returned to your child's middle school. If you have any enquiries please contact the Trip Leader at your school or the administrator by email**

Harrold Priory Trip Leader – Mrs Dilley Tel: 01234 720346

Lincroft Trip Leader – Miss Stanton Tel: 01234 822147

Margaret Beaufort Trip Leader – Miss Cowley Tel: 01234 708213

SAF Trip Administrator - Mrs N Boddington Tel: 01234 822147

(nboddington@lincroft.beds.sch.uk)

Thank you.

Yours sincerely



Miss C Stanton

**Lead Professional, Modern Foreign Languages**

To: Mrs Boddington (via trip leader) - Please return by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015

**YEAR 7 RESIDENTIAL VISIT TO CHÂTEAU DE LA BAUDONNIÈRE – NORMANDY 2016**  
**Harrold Priory, Lincroft & Margaret Beaufort Schools**

Name:

Form:

**Middle School: Harrold Priory School**

I/we would like you to reserve a place for my/our child on the visit to Normandy and will make payment using the secure internet payment systems. Alternatively, you can pay by cheque made payable to 'Lincroft School' or cash.

I/we understand that the holding deposit of £90 is non-returnable unless the school is unable to offer a place on the visit because it is over-subscribed.

I/ we agree to pay 4 further instalments (a total payment of £510, including the deposit by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016).

I/we accept that the school also reserves the right to withdraw the place offered should my/ our child fail to fulfill the school's expectations for selection for the visit. In these circumstances, the deposit will be forfeited unless the school is able to re-allocate to a pupil on the waiting list.

Signed (Parent/ Carer) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_