



## Year 8 French Cultural Visit July 2023

January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I am delighted to be able to offer your son/daughter the chance to take part in a residential french cultural visit to Brittany during activities week 2023. This trip is an opportunity for students to experience French culture at first hand, as well as take part in a range of activities of a cross-curricular nature. Students were given an assembly in school today outlining the details of this trip.

The visit will take place from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July to Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2023. We have worked hard to keep the cost of the trip down and the final total cost will be available once all expressions of interest have been received and we know the final numbers. **However, we estimate the cost to be no more than £550 per student** and I am hopeful that the final amount will come in below this maximum. The price includes all travel (including return coach travel to France), accommodation, food, insurance and all visits/activities during our stay in France.

We will be staying in a [youth hostel at Port Picain](#) near St Malo. We have run this trip to the same location for many years (until Covid struck in 2020) and have always had a fantastic experience here. The hostel is located in a beautiful bay between the towns of Cancale and St Malo and boasts excellent facilities which meet health and safety standards. We will have sole use of the hostel for the duration of the visit; it will be staffed 24 hours a day, and locked at night.

The hostel facilities include:

- office / reception area with French and English speaking staff
- large dining area, refreshment and mezzanine sitting area
- 2 well equipped study areas
- games areas, both indoors and outside
- sea views

The final details of the itinerary are to be confirmed, but the planned itinerary includes a number of trips/activities. These include day trips to visit the walled town of St Malo, the superbly preserved medieval town of Dinan, and the fishing port of Cancale with its world famous oyster beds. We hope to spend a day taking part in watersports activities including sea kayaking and sailing. We will also visit a Normandy D-day landings historical site where the cliffs are still riddled with German bunkers, and the ground is deeply scarred with shell holes from the bombardments. This is the perfect place to appreciate the scale of this conflict first hand.

There will be a variety of evening activities including diary sessions, games, activities and performances. During the visit the students will be actively encouraged to speak as much French as possible and will be given short daily French lessons to help them prepare for each of the activities. However, students **do not** need to be studying French in order to be selected to come on the trip.

There are 63 places available which will be allocated via a random ballot after the closing date for applications should the trip be oversubscribed. If you would like to apply for a place for your son/daughter, please complete [this expression of interest google form](#) no later than **Sunday 22nd January 2023**. After the deadline, if your child is successful in getting a place on the trip, you will be asked to pay the initial **deposit of £90**. In order to secure your child's place on the trip, you will need to pay the deposit within the time period requested, or your child's place may be offered to another student. The remaining amount can be paid in full or we will be offering a stage payment plan.

If, at this stage, you need more time to assess the cost of the trip but would still like your child to be considered for a place, or if your child is eligible for pupil premium, then please complete the expression of interest google form above and also contact the finance team by phoning the school or please email: [finance@langtreeschool.com](mailto:finance@langtreeschool.com).

Registering your son/daughter on this trip represents a commitment that they will take part in this trip. Trips require extensive planning, organisation and careful costing based on the number of students participating. Once deposits have been paid, it is therefore not possible for students to withdraw from a trip having previously made a commitment to take part, unless we are able to fill the place with another student. All monies paid are on a non-refundable basis as long as the trip goes ahead. The full balance of the trip must be paid prior to the trip taking place.

The school reserves the right to withdraw students from a trip when there are concerns about behaviour, attendance or attitude.

All trips and visits involving students from Langtree School are always planned and risk assessed extremely carefully, in order to ensure the highest level of safety for our students as possible. We would like to assure parents that we regularly review all of our arrangements and will do everything in our control to ensure that all students participating on a trip can do so with a sense of safety, confidence and enjoyment.

Kind regards

Dr Joanna Howell (Trip Leader)