From French Department: Andrew Crisp

21 September 2018

Dear Parent,

**re: 3rd Year Cultural Trip to Paris**

Abingdon’s French department is delighted to invite your son to a cultural trip to Paris from Friday 14 – Tuesday 18 December 2018.   This trip provides the perfect opportunity for pupils to practise their spoken French whilst soaking up the rich Parisian culture.

Internationally acclaimed for its gastronomy, history and art, Paris caters for every taste. With the number of museums, attractions and events on offer, the boys will be able to fully immerse themselves into 'la vie Parisienne'. The city undergoes a transformation during the Christmas season, with its most beautiful monuments illuminated, Christmas decorations adorning the streets, and department store windows filled with animated displays. Markets, Nativity scenes, merry-go-rounds and a host of other activities and events take over the city, bringing the festive spirit to life.

The itinerary includes an extensive range of visits including the Louvre and the Tuileries gardens, the Cité des sciences et de l’industrie, the Montparnasse tower, Montmartre and a boat trip on the river Seine.

Both the running and cost of the trip will depend on the number of boys taking part and will be approximately £455 (a slight increase on the price quoted in the letter sent to your son earlier this week). **Please note that places will be attributed on a first come first served basis.** Payment for the trip should be made via the WisePay trip page, to which an invitation will be sent out separately upon completion of the consent form via the link below. Parents unable to make payment by this method should contact the trip leader to arrange alternative means of payment. The trip cost includes the coach trip via Eurotunnel, insurance, hotel accommodation, half board, métro tickets and all entrance fees. We recommend around 100 Euros pocket money for lunches and souvenirs.

**Please note that by completing the electronic consent form you are committing to the total cost of this trip.** The School will proceed to make bookings and reservations immediately to procure the best possible deals.

For this purpose, we will need you to upload a copy of your son’s passport. Please check it will be valid for the time of travel.

It is very important that you can make arrangements for your son to be picked up on the day of return. The aim is to return to the UK in the evening of Tuesday 18 December and we will let you know the details in due course.

Boys who are non-EU/EEA / Schengen passport holders MUST travel back to the UK with the school trip before onward flight connections can be made. Flight connections may not be made from the host country or en route home as this causes major VISA problems.

Normal school rules will apply regarding behaviour, and boys will spend any free time in groups of three.

Dress can be casual but needs to be warm (hat, gloves, layers, warm winter coat) and comfortable.  On the day of travel, boys will need packed lunches, a drink and snacks.

I hope this outlines the visit and our expectations. Here is the link to the parental consent form for completion and return, due back to me no later than **Wednesday 26 September**.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSchqfGCgsbvPCWNJ3--FriSBxjTUOVVk2TAC8EAeh6JM7X3Sg/viewform?usp=sf_link>

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the visit.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Crisp – French Department

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