6 June 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

**Yr 8 Trip to Normandy, 4-8 April 2019**

I am writing to inform you about an exciting trip to France we are planning for next April. In the Languages department at Midhurst Rother College, we are keen to provide opportunities for students to use their skills in real situations abroad. After two fantastic trips with this educational travel company, I have chosen “Normandy Experience” (part of the Voyager group) once again. We will stay in a small, rural accommodation centre near the pretty town of Avranches. La Grand’ Ferme is situated in a quiet hamlet, a short walk away from the coast and a beautiful view of the Mont St Michel in the bay. The centre consists of a pretty farmhouse and surrounding buildings, fully refurbished for study trips. Participating Year 8 students will go on visits in the local area and take part in activities taught in French. College staff and French-speaking group leaders or “animateurs” will accompany them.

The planned itinerary all takes place in the beautiful region of Normandy, which allows us to use the Portsmouth to Caen ferry route, cutting down on coach travel time from Midhurst to our chosen destination. We will travel overnight on the way out to Normandy to give us more daytime to enjoy the region. The students will sleep in 4 berth cabins on the ferry and in 4 - 8 bedded ensuite rooms at our accommodation centre. Our packed itinerary includes visits to the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Mont St Michel and the Bayeux tapestry, as well as a visit to town on market day and to a small rural goat farm, where the students will learn about goat husbandry, milk and cheese production. We will travel back to Portsmouth on an afternoon crossing arriving on the Monday evening 8 April.

As well as sightseeing, there will be a choice of activities on our two full days, staying at “La Grand’ Ferme”, such as bread-making, orienteering, archery, canoeing or sand yachting and crafts. Experiencing activities through a new language allows for a very natural way of acquiring new vocabulary, which is also good fun! Our animateurs will introduce the students to new foods at mealtimes too, using the French language all the time. There will be evening activities at our centre too, such as sports or maybe a talent show!

The trip is arranged from Thursday 4 April to Sunday 7 April 2019. The total cost of the trip, including generous meals, all entrances and activities will be £398 per student. If you might be eligible for a charitable grant to help you pay for your child to have this opportunity, please contact me about making an application to the Gilbert Hannam Foundation, a local charity which can support families with the cost of study trips. Once a place for a student is confirmed, the College will ask parents to pay for the trip in four instalments. Having used this company with other school groups before, I know
the trip offers great value for money, builds students’ confidence to speak French and teaches them a lot about life in rural France. Please visit the company’s web site to look at lots more photos and information about “La Grand’ Ferme” http://www.frenchschooltravel.com/the-centre/ - . Do not hesitate to contact me via email at Fiona.Lunskey@mrc-academy.org, should you have other questions about the trip. If you are interested in your son/daughter participating in this trip, please complete the reply slip below and return to Student Reception by Friday 15 June.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Fiona Lunskey
Curriculum Leader for Modern Foreign Languages

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Reply slip

Trip title: **Year 8 Trip to Normandy**  Trip Leader: Mrs F Lunskey
Date of trip/residential: 4 – 8 April 2019

Name of Student: ...............................................................  Tutor Group: ..............................................................

I am interested in my son/daughter taking up the residential to Normandy, 4-8 April 2019

Name of parent/carer: .............................................................Contact Tel: .................................................................

Signed: ........................................................................................................Date: .................................................................

Please return this slip to Mrs Fowler at Student Reception by Friday 15 June 2018. Thank you.