St. Peter's Anglican Methodist VC Primary School
Dream, Believe, Achieve
"All things are possible." Mark 9:23

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Dear Parents of Year 5 children

I am writing to inform you that we have booked the residential visit to Château de Grande Romaine, near Paris, France (pictured right) for the children who will be in Year 6 next September. Following on from our success this year, the 2025 visit will be a joint trip with the Year 6 children from Almondsbury.

I am confident that the children will have a wonderful time with plenty of new experiences. The visit will take place between **Monday 15 September and Friday 19 September 2025**. Full details of the itinerary will be published when we have them from PGL after the payment of the first deposit. From that point on we will be able to provide specifics such as departure times, transport details and arrival times for our return.

I would like to assure you that your child will be in the best possible care of the staff that will be staying. We have booked the visit for this time of year to ensure that the children develop a closer bond to each other and to their new class teacher.

There are bound to be children who get homesick, it is only natural. There have been on every residential visit that I have attended. I can assure you that this passes, usually quite quickly. If there are children who become ill they will be well cared for and we have the expertise of the centre staff as well as the school staff. There is a doctor attached to the centre to call on if the need arises. If your child becomes very ill and you are asked to come and collect your child the insurance policy will pay for any travel and accommodation costs incurred.

The children will be supervised at all times during the visit. There are security guards on duty 24 hours a day at the chateau, as is the requirement now for all school based residential centres whether they be in Great Britain or in Europe. The PGL staff are highly trained and capable of attending to the needs of our children. The activities are run by fully qualified instructors. Rigorous risk assessments have been carried out by PGL on the accommodation, activities and visits off site. We will complete our own risk assessments as well.

Whilst we are off site the children will remain with their group leader. A PGL instructor will also be present with the groups. Especially when we are in crowded places, the group will stay together at all times. I believe that all precautions that we can think of have been considered and will be taken.

At the moment we are unable to state the complete cost of the visit as excursion prices for the Autumn 2025 season have not yet been released. However, we estimate it will be approximately **£580.** The cost includes travel to and from Chateau de Grande Romaine, coach travel whilst in France, all meals (apart from those on departing school), accommodation, activities at the chateau, entrance fees and insurance. Spending

money is not included in this cost; however, we will collect in an amount of 50 Euros per child the week before departure.

The first deposit of £75 will need to be paid by **Thursday 24 October** on Arbor in the usual way. The 2nd amount of £75 needs to be paid by **Friday 20th December** and the 3rd instalment of £75 needs to be paid **by Friday 14th February 2025**. The remaining amount can be paid in instalments via Arbor. If you want to pay in full you can do. The full amount for the visit will need to be paid by **Monday 14th July 2025**. If any parents of a pupil in receipt of benefit related free school meals or have difficulty making the payment, please contact the school office in confidence to discuss financial support.
With a residential trip being such a big adventure for Year 6s, we often have children who are unsure whether they would like to come or not. While we are happy to work alongside you to help your child make this choice, we must insist that all final decisions are made as soon as possible to avoid disappointment – as we are travelling in such a large group, we cannot guarantee that they will be able to accommodate anyone making this decision after the date given for the first deposit.

As we are entering a different country within Europe, the children will need to have a passport. For the first time this year, **children will need to travel on their own passport**. Please ensure your child's passport meets the conditions to be valid for travel within France. Details of this can be checked here: https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/france/entry-requirements Please note that children do not need to hold specific British passports, simply a passport that is fully valid. If you need to apply for a passport for your child or make a renewal, details can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/get-a-child-passport/first-child-passport We will need to collect in all passport details in March so please ensure you make this application as soon as possible.

You will also need to **complete a request for a Global Health Card** (if your child does not already an existing EHIC card which still applies until the expiry date), you can apply online through this website: Apply for a free UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) - NHS (www.nhs.uk), or call 0845 606 2030. Please be aware that the EHIC cards once expired are now to be replaced by the GHIC.

As is normal on residential visits you will be asked to complete a form of indemnity to allow the school staff to take your child with us and administer any medication they may already have or need whilst on the visit. All of these will be completed in the summer term 2025.

We will be organising a parents' meeting regarding the visit in Summer 2025. However, if you have any queries or questions before that time, please speak to the office.

We do value your support in this matter and look forward to new and exciting times for the new Year 6 children next year. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Mr Paul D Smith

Executive Head teacher