11 September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

**Year 10 Maison Claire Fontaine French Trip**

I am delighted to inform you that we are organising an exciting French trip to Maison Claire Fontaine, a language and activity centre in Burgundy (Bourgogne) for Year 10 students studying French. This is the fourth year we are running the trip and this year, it will take place during Enrichment Week from **Saturday 11 July 2020 until Thursday 16 July 2020**.

The best place to learn a language is in the country where it is spoken and this trip will offer them the opportunity to practise and improve their French skills using the language in real life situations, which will be invaluable experience to help students with the demands of the new GCSE course. We will be staying at the Lac Sauvin centre near Vézelay where students will have the opportunity to experience authentic French food. Some of the planned activities include kayaking, pétanque (French bowls), shopping at a market and a trip to Dijon, famous for its mustard making tradition. Students may also have the opportunity to eat in a traditional French restaurant in Avallon. Whilst at the centre, students will take part in a number of activities, various team games and discover all about this wonderful region of France.

As well as the many visits and cross-curricular activities, there will also be morning French language lessons in small groups with the content designed to meet our curriculum. This will be beneficial to all students studying French at GCSE level and will help build their confidence in both spoken and written French. It will also be highly beneficial in terms of motivation.

The students who took part two years ago had a fantastic time and enjoyed all aspects of the trip and the current Year 10 students are eagerly waiting to go on the trip in a few weeks’ time.

In order for the trip to go ahead, we require sufficient interest. **The trip will cost £510 per student** based on 40 students attending. (Please note this may change depending on numbers). This includes the following:

- Return travel by coach from Rickmansworth School to Maison Claire Fontaine
- Accommodation for 5 nights (Full Board)
- French lessons including all pedagogical material
- Travel and entry costs to all attractions/sites
  - Meal out at a restaurant
  - Travel and medical insurance
A non-refundable £100 deposit will be required following allocation of places.

**Allocation of Places**
This trip has a limited number of places. Should the trip be oversubscribed by the reply deadline, remaining places will subsequently be allocated randomly from those students whose replies have been received prior to the reply deadline. If you wish your son/daughter to participate, please complete this GroupCall reply slip by **Friday 20 September 2019**. Please note that payment is only required on allocation of a place.

Any students who are not successful in securing a place on the trip will be placed on a reserve list. If you do not hear anything further from the French Department, please assume that your son/daughter was not successful in securing a place on the trip.

**Payment Upon Allocation of Space**
Where spaces are limited such as for this trip, payment cannot be made until all parent replies have been received and places have been allocated, but must be made within one week of the reply deadline. The payment deadline is therefore **Friday 27 September**. If your son/daughter is allocated a space, you will receive a letter confirming this shortly after the reply deadline, which will also request payment. Failure to organise payment by the deadline may mean that your son/daughter’s place on the trip is forfeited, so please watch out carefully for that letter.

**Payment Schedule**
- Friday 18 October - £165
- Friday 7 February - £165
- Friday 3 April - £100

**All students will need their own passport.**

If you have any questions or wish to find out more information about the trip please contact me by email – **mredrup@rickmansworth.herts.sch.uk**

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Redrup
Head of the French Department
To: Mrs M Redrup
Re: Year 10 Maison Claire Fontaine French Trip 2019

Student Name .................................................................

Form & Teaching Group ....................................................

Having read and understood the details of the visit as set out in the letter of 11 September 2019, I wish my son/daughter to participate in the trip to **Year 10 Maison Claire Fontaine French Trip**

I confirm that if my son/daughter is offered a space on this trip, payment will be made by the deadline as outline in this letter.

Parent Signature .............................................................