



CWb/clw.letter1

September 2017

Dear Parents

CHÂTEAU DE LA BAUDONNIÈRE, NORMANDY FRANCE Sunday 11th March – Saturday 17th March 2018

We are delighted to be able to offer you the opportunity to go on the very popular immersion trip to the Château de la Baudonnière from Sunday 11th March – Saturday 17th March 2018. The trip is open to all Year 7 in the first instance.

The Chateau is situated in the region of La Manche in Normandy, 90 minutes south of Cherbourg. Its grounds incorporate an orchard and cider press, boule pitch, farmyard, a lake and river, woodland and meadows. The accommodation is arranged in several small dormitories and the girls are provided with 3 excellent quality French meals per day in the dining room at the centre.

Our pupils will engage in a range of outdoor and indoor activities at the centre. For example, there will be an opportunity to take part in a treasure hunt, an orienteering session, climbing, archery and the famous assault course. St Edmund's teachers will be staying at the centre, of course, and the staff who work there are all experienced and fully trained. There will also be French classroom activities and games and quizzes in the evenings.

The Chateau is all about French language immersion. Everything that is done there involves using practical spoken French to convey meaning and the children are encouraged to speak French as much as possible. A friendly, French environment supports this philosophy. This, of course, provides an excellent opportunity for your daughter to practise hearing and speaking French in a real life situation. From this year's experience we also found that it provided girls with invaluable life skills in a safe environment and boosted their overall confidence.

Travel to the Chateau will be by coach from school to Portsmouth before travelling by ferry and coach to the Chateau in Normandy. **Your daughter will require her own passport and NHS European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).**

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CHATEAU DE LA BAUDONNIERE

The cost for this trip will be approximately £475 and this includes all travel, travel insurance, accommodation, visits and meals at the centre and all equipment and teaching materials. The price does not include meals on route. Apart from this cost, however, pupils would require a little spending money for their own purchases.

I believe that this is an excellent opportunity for your daughter to practise her French in a supportive atmosphere and to add relevance to the study of a foreign language.

Please make payment through your ParentPay account. Once you have accessed ParentPay you will see the Chateau trip on the screen which you need to select. This will allow you to make payment and to complete the necessary permission slip. Please include details of any medical conditions and contact details in the notes field on ParentPay. If you are unable to do this please contact Mrs Williams, the Assistant Business Manager on awilliams@st-edmunds.eu

We will need a non-refundable deposit of £125 no later than Monday 2nd October 2017. The balance will be paid in two further instalments in November (£175) and January (£175).

If the trip is over-subscribed by the closing date, places will be allocated by random selection. Please note that if insufficient people take up this opportunity, then it will not be possible to run the activity and your payment will be refunded. We regret that refunds cannot be made unless the activity is cancelled by the school.

Should you require further details, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Christine Webb
Modern Foreign Languages teacher