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28 May 2018

Dear Parents

FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL TOUR TO FRANCE - 2019

As your sons have possibly shared with you, Toowoomba Grammar School is planning a trip to France next year for French students who will be in Years 11 and 12. The boys are very keen and at this stage I am asking for an expression of interest from you and a deposit of \$1,000 to get things started. This deposit would be refundable if we were unable to get sufficient numbers for the trip to be viable. The total cost of this trip is expected to be between \$5,900 - \$6,200, with the final figure determined by the number of participants.

The proposed dates for the trip are from Thursday, 28 March until Sunday, 21 April 2019, which incorporates Activities Week and the Easter holidays. I have also enclosed a proposed itinerary. At least two members of staff will accompany the boys. After our arrival in Paris, we will take the TGV (high-speed train) to Nancy and will then stay in Nancy for the first two weeks of our trip, where the boys will attend school and spend a week on Easter holidays with host families. We will then return to Paris where we will spend a week sightseeing throughout Paris, Versailles and the chateaux of the Loire Valley. From Paris, we will travel to the Somme region to see the Australian War Memorial and the newly opened Sir John Monash Museum at Villers-Bretonneux.

As the boys are looked after by families in Nancy, it is expected that the hosting is reciprocated. Where this is simply not possible, I ask parents and boys to discuss with me, as we may be able to facilitate alternative arrangements. The French students will come to Toowoomba for three weeks in July/August 2019. The French boys will come to our School and the girls will attend one of our local sister-schools. At this stage, the three weeks are most likely to comprise two weeks of term time and one week of school holiday time, though this will be confirmed at a later date.

To be hosted by a French family as well as travel in France will be a wonderful opportunity for everyone's French language and knowledge of French culture and history to improve dramatically. Our itinerary is based on previous years' trips which have been highly successful.

If you feel this trip would be of benefit to your son and you would like to secure a place for him on the tour, please return the attached permission form to me and make a deposit payment of \$1,000 on or before Wednesday, 20 June 2018. You will be notified late June as to whether the trip will go ahead, and should we proceed a further payment of \$2,500 will be due on or before Monday, 20 August and a final payment of between \$2,400 - \$2,700 will be due on Monday, 29 October 2018.

Yours sincerely

E.C. Parrington
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT - LANGUAGES

Toowoomba Grammar School - Proposed Itinerary

France 2019

Thu, 28 March, Brisbane - Paris

Assemble at Brisbane International Airport to check-in prior to departure on Singapore Airlines flight for Singapore. (All flight details yet to be confirmed).

Fri, 29 March, Paris

Upon arrival in Singapore transfer and depart for Charles de Gaulle Airport. Upon arrival, collect luggage and proceed through Customs & Immigration. Using your rail pass depart from Paris CDG station for Lorraine TGV station. On arrival you will be met by your host families. Whilst in homestay, our group will have one day-trip together to Strasbourg, using your rail pass. Host family to provide full board during homestay, which will include one week of attending school and one week of Easter holidays in Nancy.

Fri, 12 April, Nancy - Paris

This morning farewell your host families and travel to Paris. Use your rail pass to travel by TGV to Paris Est station. On arrival transfer by coach to your hotel, home for the next six nights. In the afternoon visit the Louvre. Dinner nearby. Evening enjoy the views of Paris from the Eiffel Tower

Sat, 13 April, Paris This morning visit Sainte Chapelle and the Conciergerie. Afternoon at Montmartre and Sacré Coeur. Dinner at restaurant near Bateau Mouche port followed by an evening cruise on the Seine.

Sun, 14 April, Paris

This morning visit Musée de l'Armée, Hotel des Invalides and Napoleon's Tomb. Lunch nearby. Afternoon - Pompidou, Notre Dame, Shakespeare Bookshop, Latin Quarter.

Mon, 15 April, Paris

This morning travel by train to Versailles guided visit with audio-guides of the Palace and then return to Paris in time for the 6.30pm ceremony at the Arc de Triomphe. Dinner nearby.

Tues, 16 April, Paris

BLD This morning - Opéra Garnier followed by lunch nearby. Afterwards Le Musée d'Orsay. Dinner near your hotel.

Wed, 17 April, Paris - Loire Valley - Paris

Today enjoy a full day tour to the Loire Valley with entrance fees included to Chateaux Amboise and Chenonceau. Enjoy lunch in Amboise.

Thu, 18 April, Paris - Somme

Take your coach to Amiens and spend the day tracing the history of Australia's involvement in World War I in this area. Stay overnight in your hotel. Dinner at your hotel.

Fri, 19 April, Somme - Paris

Visit the Commonwealth War Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, the newly opened Sir John Monash Centre, the Franco-Australian Museum and the Victoria School. Return by coach to your hotel in Paris. Dinner at your hotel.

Sat, 20 April, Paris - Singapore

Morning transfer to Charles de Gaulle Airport Terminal 1, to check-in prior to departure on Singapore Airlines flight for Singapore.

Sun, 21 April, Paris - Brisbane

Arrival in Singapore, transfer to your flight departing for Brisbane. Upon arrival in Brisbane, your tour concludes. (All flight details to be confirmed)

End of Tour

Mrs E. C. Parrington
Head of Department - Languages
Toowoomba Grammar School
PO Box 2900
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Dear Mrs Parrington

I, the undersigned _____,

hereby give permission for _____

to travel to France as a member of the Toowoomba Grammar School French Group.

I enclose herewith the sum of \$1,000 as a deposit, and agree to pay a further \$2,500 on or before Monday, 20 August 2018, and the remaining amount (TBA: approx. \$2,400 - \$2,700) on or before Monday, 29 October 2018.

Please make payments via the Toowoomba Grammar School webpage as per the following steps:

- >> Click on direct link <http://www.twgs.qld.edu.au/community/payments-and-bookings/>
- >> Select = Click HERE to PAY for EVENTS
- >> Select Booking or Payment = Events and Activities
- >> Select Group = Tours
- >> Select Event = French Tour 2019
- >> Complete required information and follow prompts for payment.

For other methods of payment, please contact the Accounts Department directly. Please do not make payments using BPay, as these will go toward school fees.

I also agree to pay any additional expenses which may arise from my son's participation in the tour.

I understand that according to travel agent policy and terms of condition (Global Education Tours), once deposits have been made to the agent, no refund will be possible on withdrawal from the trip, unless the position is filled by another person or tour is cancelled due to lack of numbers.

(Parent Signature)

*TO SECURE A PLACE ON THIS TRIP FOR YOUR SON, PLEASE PAY DEPOSIT **AND** RETURN THIS FORM AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE, ON OR BEFORE WEDNESDAY, 20 JUNE 2018.*