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18th May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Mathematics Faculty: Maths Inspiration trip to Florence, Italy: October 1st – October 4th 2024

Languages Faculty: Trip to Paris, France: October 1st – October 4th 2024

We are writing with exciting news for our current year 8 students – both the Mathematics and Languages faculties are offering the opportunity for a residential trip abroad in the Autumn of their Year 10.

- The Mathematics faculty are proposing a residential trip to Florence, Italy on Tuesday 1st October until Friday 4th October 2024.
- The Languages faculty are proposing a residential trip to Paris, France on Tuesday 1st October until Friday 4th October 2024.

Both trips run at exactly the same time, so students can only choose to go on one of them, though numbers are limited to around 45 - 55 places on both. Both trips offer fantastic opportunities to introduce students to a new country and further enhance their life skills. Details of each trip are below:

Maths - Florence

Florence, the birthplace of the Renaissance; during the 16th and 17th centuries this beautiful city inspired a plethora of new knowledge and mathematical ideas. It is an exciting and wonderfully unusual destination for a school maths tour. We are delighted to be able to offer this opportunity to our students.

The trip will include visits to:

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| • Leaning Tower of Pisa | • Santa Maria del Fiore |
| • Museo Galileo | • Uffizi Gallery |
| • Museo di Leonardo da Vinci | • Ponte Vecchio |
| • Walking tour of Florence | • Galleria dell'Accademia |
| • Piazza dei Miracoli | • Piazza della Signoria |
| • Giotto's Bell Tower | • Palazzo Vecchio |

The trip is for four days and three nights. Assuming we fill the 45 places, the cost will be £725 per student, including transfers to and from the airport, flights, accommodation, breakfast and evening meals as well as entry to all museums and attractions mentioned above.

As a Maths department we continually get asked the questions, 'When will we use this?' and 'Why will I need it?' to a multitude of mathematical concepts we look at throughout years 7 – 11; with this trip we will have the opportunity to investigate these concepts and how they relate to the wider world we live in.

For the Florence trip please complete this reply slip on google form (<https://forms.gle/2YRcHkbejjqSNSUB6>) and pay an initial non-refundable £100 deposit by June 9th 2023 which can be paid through Parent Pay.

The balance will be paid in four instalments, more information will be provided on confirmation of your place. *(Pupils in receipt of Free School Meals will have access to some subsidy from school. Please contact us for further information.)*

Languages – Paris

The trip will be a four day/three night trip to Paris on the above dates and will be organised by NST, a reputable school travel company (their website is www.nstgroup.co.uk) that we have used many times before. Assuming we fill the 55 spaces, the cost for accommodation, excursions, full-board, coach and ferry travel is £586.

This trip would be strongly recommended for those considering taking French at GCSE.

Trip will include visits to:

- two art galleries, the Louvre and Musée d'Orsay
- a river boat tour on the Seine
- a guided visit of a perfumery, Fragonard Perfumerie
- a guided tour of Stade de France, France's national football and rugby union stadium
- the artists' paradise of Montmartre,
- Palace of Versailles – a world heritage site and home to the 1919 Versailles Treaty
- Parc Astérix, France's second largest theme park

Students will be encouraged to use their French as much as possible, and we will have language activities to complete whilst on our visit.

For the Paris trip please complete this reply slip on google forms

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1HT7Eps6BGQx1pQu-ygte4vL-sayYRM58pbKKLP9IfeA/edit> and pay an initial non-refundable £100 deposit by June 9th 2023 which can be paid through Parent Pay.

As both trips are set to take place on the same dates, students who are interested should indicate their preferred trip. They can do this by:

1. completing the trip specific google form, either Florence (<https://forms.gle/2YRcHkbejjqSNSUB6>) or Paris (<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1HT7Eps6BGQx1pQu-ygte4vL-sayYRM58pbKKLP9IfeA/edit>) and
2. paying the £100 deposit by the 9th June.

The balance will be paid in four instalments and more information will be provided on confirmation of your place. ***Students in receipt of Free School Meals will have access to some subsidy from school. Please***

contact your trip leader for further information.

Please ensure you have read both trips' details before making a decision. Please note all students will need to have their own valid passport with 6 months remaining from end of trip and a valid GHIC card

Traditionally, all our residential trips have been well subscribed and we have limited places. If any trip is oversubscribed, then the Senior Leadership Team will pull names at random out of a hat after the deposit deadline. Students who are not thus selected may be able to transfer their deposit to the other trip if they so wish, or it can be refunded. However, if sufficient numbers are not reached to make a trip viable, then it will be cancelled and any monies paid refunded.

As with all school trips, students' behaviour and attendance will be expected to be excellent in order to take part and students may be removed from the trip at any time should either of these factors fail to reach the required standard, and in which case no monies already paid will be refunded. Similarly, if a student wishes to withdraw from the trip for any reason, no monies already paid will be refunded, unless we can fill the place.

For further information, please contact Mrs Ford or Miss Botting regarding Florence or Ms Robb regarding Paris on admin@gvsc.org.uk. We are all very excited and looking forward to the trips already!

Yours faithfully



Mrs Ford
Teacher of Mathematics



Miss Botting
Teacher of Mathematics



Ms Robb
Teacher of Languages



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