



Established in 1856

## St Peter's Church of England (VC) Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Jim Holditch

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents,

Following last week's zoom meetings, I am writing with regard to the forthcoming residential at the KCC centre in Hardelot, which is taking place from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June.

We can take up to 36 children from Years 5 and 6, and it is likely that four adults will accompany the trip. I can't say who these will be at this stage, apart from me. Once we know the numbers of children who wish to participate, we can then confirm which adults will be involved. Those children who don't wish to participate will come into school as normal and will be taught in an amalgam class. They will complete a project that week and we will make sure that their activities are exciting for them.

As I explained in the zoom meeting, we haven't yet confirmed the itinerary for the trip. We had hoped to follow what had been planned for the cancelled trip in 2020. However, I have just spoken to Camille, who is the manager at Hardelot and who books the excursions for us. Unfortunately, there will need to be changes to what we previously booked. The sweet factory at Boulogne has gone out of business unfortunately and some of the activities that previously allowed groups to visit, no longer do so. Therefore, we are drawing up a new itinerary. However, it will be similar in so much that we will be participating in local activities that introduce the children to French culture.

We will travel by ferry as foot passengers from Dover on the Monday. We would aim to take a ferry at around 9am. We ask that you drop your children at the ferry terminal. We will eat breakfast on the ferry and generally enjoy the crossing. The children will be organised into groups, with a named adult leading each group. If the weather allows, we will go out on deck, but the children will always be closely supervised.

We will have a coach waiting for us at Calais. We will then travel down to Hardelot but with a stop somewhere to visit a local activity. We also hope to arrange a second visit, after we have dropped bags at the centre. Doing so makes full use of the coach.

On Tuesday we will be out all day, visiting local attractions. On Wednesday we will visit the beach (weather permitting) and I would hope to organise sand yachting. If we are able to do so, we will provide you with full details about what is involved and the safety measures which are in place.



Thursday we will travel back to Calais but we will definitely stop in Etaples to visit the commonwealth war cemetery, and then the open-air market where the children will be able to buy gifts. If it is still open, we will visit the fishing museum as well.

We will return to Dover as foot passengers and ask that you collect your children from the terminal. We would aim to arrive home for somewhere around 5pm. The children will be very tired, as well we! They do not have to attend school on Friday if you do not wish them to.

The accommodation at Hardelot is basic but quite acceptable. It is far better than the accommodation we were given at Carroty Wood or Kingswood. Generally, the children will be sharing rooms of two. Much closer to the time, we will speak to the children about who they wish to share with, and we will obviously try to pair friends together. The food is fantastic, but there is no shop or amenities on the site, so the children must eat what they are given or go hungry!

In the evenings we will use the facilities at the centre, which include low ropes, a games room, volleyball/football pitch and petanque, as well as organising a talent show and water fight.

Our last two residentials have been cancelled because of Covid. Hopefully the situation has improved sufficiently that this one won't be in jeopardy. As the centre is KCC owned, you will be covered financially if we have to cancel again because of Covid. I will confirm that KCC travel insurance covers us for any medical emergencies now that we have left the EU and no longer have access to the EHIC scheme.

Two years ago the cost of the stay was £310. Camille is now investigating what activities will be available to us and from that, we will be able to confirm a price. Obviously it won't be less than the previous £310, but I hope that it isn't significantly higher. At this stage, you can return the reply slip to register your possible interest in the trip. You can then commit to it or withdraw once we have a firmer idea of price. The price alters according to the numbers participating, as the coach costs a fixed price, no matter how many passengers it carries. The more people on the coach, the less the individual cost, so I do need a rough idea of numbers before I can give you a firm idea of price.

If you have any questions about the trip, please don't hesitate to ask. Otherwise, would you please return your reply slip by the end of next week so that we can begin to plan the trip in more detail.

Best wishes



Jim Holditch

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Please return by Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October

I would like to register my interest in the Year 5/6 residential to Hardelot next summer.

Child's name: ..... Year Group: .....

Signed : .....