

May 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: The Holt School Concert Tour to Paris and Brussels
1st – 7th April 2020**

We are very excited to announce our next proposed concert tour to Paris and Brussels in April 2020. This tour will be open to all members of senior and junior choirs with the possibility of smaller instrumental ensembles also performing. We hope it will be as successful as our previous tours to Amsterdam and Maastricht in 2018, Berlin and Krakow in 2016, Rome and Sorrento in 2014, and Vienna and Prague in 2012. We have used Equity Travel for previous tours and value the service they provide. They have previously arranged some fantastic concert locations for us!

LOCATION

We will begin our tour in Paris, staying just outside the city centre staying for 3 nights before taking a coach transfer to Brussels, again, staying in the city centre for 3 nights. A **sample** itinerary is shown below and will be confirmed at a later date.

	AM	PM
Day 1	Travel to Paris by coach	Check-in to accommodation. Evening meal in local restaurant.
Day 2	Visit Notre Dame, Île de la Cité, Paris river boat cruise and Eiffel Tower	Go up Tour Montparnasse Afternoon/evening concert
Day 3	Visit Versailles Palace	Afternoon/evening concert
Day 4	Journey to Brussels	Check in to accommodation Evening performance
Day 5	Visit Chocolate Factory	Bowling Evening concert
Day 6	Visit Musical instrument museum	Afternoon/evening concert
Day 7	Check out accommodation.	Return to UK via coach.

TRAVEL

Coach travel to Dover
Ferry from Dover to Calais
Coach travel from Calais for the duration of the tour including sightseeing and concerts

INSURANCE

Comprehensive travel insurance, including medical emergencies, is provided for all members of the party.

COST

The cost of the tour is £800.00.

INCLUDED IN THE PRICE

- Travel by coach and ferry
- Full board accommodation at 2 hotels
- Full excursion programme
- Organisation and publicity of 5 concerts
- Services of bi-lingual concert assistants
- Fully comprehensive travel insurance

In the first instance, please respond by indicating whether you would like your daughter/son to be considered for a place on the tour.

We are hoping to take 40 students and 4 members of staff. If you would like your daughter to go on this trip, then please **pay the deposit of £200 and fill in the online consent survey (link is in WisePay) by 10am Friday 7th June 2019**. We will be unable to accept deposits after this date. **Both payment and the online consent** is required for your daughter to be considered for this trip.

If the trip is oversubscribed, places will be offered in the first instance to members of the senior choir who are currently in Years 10 and above. Year 9 students will have another opportunity to attend a tour in 2021. Those not fulfilling this criteria will be put into a ballot for the remaining spaces and a waiting list will be opened.

If your daughter gains a place on the trip, you will then make further payments as follows:

- £150.00 to be paid by end of June
- £150.00 to be paid by end of July
- £150.00 to be paid by end of September
- £150.00 to be paid by end of November

If your daughter is not successful your deposit will be returned to you. If your daughter has been allocated a place and subsequently withdraws, the deposit will be non-refundable to cover administration costs, and the remaining monies paid will only be refunded if we are able to replace her with someone from the waiting list, as the cost is based on a fixed number of students going.

Payment for the trip needs to be made via WisePay; simply login to your WisePay account for details. If you need a reminder of your WisePay login please e-mail n.hopkins@holt.wokingham.sch.uk. In the event of difficulties using this system, please telephone Mrs Simmons, the School Finance Manager.

Whilst we try to keep the price of the tour to a minimum I am expecting we will also need to pay for the use of public transport and possibly admission fees for certain excursions and ask you to bear this in mind.

We do hope you feel able to support us, but we reserve the right to cancel the tour should there be insufficient support.

In cases of severe financial hardship please contact Ms Royle, Assistant Headteacher, who may be able to put you in touch with agencies that could help or to discuss the situation.

Please contact me if you wish to discuss these arrangements for the tour.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Gray
Tour Leader