

# SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

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Dear Parent

## **Lower Sixth Lyon Exchange 2012 – Lycée du Parc**

The exchange with the Lycée du Parc in Lyon is now rapidly approaching and I hope that all participants will have engaged in some form of communication with their partners.

Travel arrangements are as follows:

### **Saturday 4 February – Sevenoaks pupils travel to Lyon**

All students (day and boarding) should arrive at Solefields car park no later than 08:30. The luggage will be loaded and the coach will depart at 08:45. The Eurostar from Ebbsfleet International to Lille leaves at 11:15. The TGV from Lille Europe leaves at 15:26 and arrives in Lyon at 18:30 (local time).

### **Saturday 18 February – Sevenoaks pupils return to Lyon with French partners**

Sevenoaks pupils will arrive with their French partners at Ebbsfleet International at 15:45. Approximate arrival time at Solefields Car Park is 17:15.

**For parents of boarders: A reminder that the boarding houses will be closed due to the Half Term holiday and will not reopen until the evening of Sunday 19 February. Please ensure that any arrangements you have in place for your son/daughter must include their exchange partner.**

### **Saturday 3 March – French partners return to Lyon**

Students go to period 1 and 2 as normal (leave luggage in ML5 from 08:30). French partners should be taken to Solefields Car Park no later than 11:00. The coach will depart no later than 11:15 to go to Ebbsfleet.

As is the procedure with exchanges, full payment of £450 has been met in advance and any necessary adjustments (which should be in your favour!) will be made at the end. Included in this price will be the usual travel, insurance and staff accompaniment and four full day excursions for the French students. This year there will be two Sevenoaks members of staff in Lyon from **Saturday 4 to Saturday 11 February**. Two further members of staff will replace them from **Saturday 11 February** and will return with the group on **Saturday 18 February**.

Both sets of students will experience a mixture of school and family time although the French will be predominantly school-based for their stay in England. When our students arrive in Lyon, they will spend the first week in school. During the second week of their stay, they will be on Half-Term holiday with their French family. Experience tells us that the French families are usually very generous to their visitors though I do advise that our students take some extra money for Métro journeys and some entrance fees (e.g. cinema), £90 - £100 should certainly cover it. It is understood that when our students go on an excursion with their family or go out for a meal for example, the family should pay for their guest.

#### ACCOMPANYING MEMBERS OF STAFF IN LYON

I will accompany the group to Lyon on Saturday 4 February along with Miss Alannah Russell. Mr and Mrs Connell will arrive on Saturday 11 February and will accompany the group on the return journey on Saturday 18 February.

For the whole of the exchange, you can contact me on the school mobile + 44 (0)7836 326563. Miss Russell can be contacted on +44 (0)7789 953791 whilst she is in Lyon (Saturday 4 to Saturday 11 February). You can contact Mr and Mrs Connell on +44 (0)7785 724934 while they are in Lyon.

#### STAFF PRESENCE IN ENGLAND

The French group will be led by Mrs Mariette Bessac who will be at school for the duration of the exchange. She will be accompanied by Ms Danièle Férao in the first week and Mrs Sylvie Kindel in the second week.

#### PROGRAMME FOR THE EXCHANGE IN SEVENOAKS

As the French students will be spending most of their weeks in England during term time, I have arranged for them to go on four whole day outings to London and one whole day outing to Hampton Court. I would be very grateful if you could arrange for your son/daughter's partner to be met in the Modern Language department, or at Sevenoaks station at the appropriate times.

When in school, the French students must register with their partners in their normal House rooms. The French students will be issued with their partner's timetable. Either they accompany their partners to lessons or attend lessons/presentations specially laid on for them.

In order to ensure that the exchange runs as smoothly and as profitably as possible for all parties, students should be reminded of the following golden rule: **your exchange partner must not be abandoned at any time during their stay here.**

### EXCHANGE PROGRAMME IN LYON

The first week is spent in school attending some lessons with their partners, being taught by Sevenoaks or French staff in the morning and also going on pre-arranged outings. On Tuesday morning students will visit the *Parc de la Tête d'Or* and will go to the cinema in the afternoon.

On Wednesday they will attend a 'Cook & Go' workshop. On Thursday students will visit the *Musée des Beaux Arts* in the morning and the *Basilique de Fourvière* and *Vieux Lyon* in the afternoon. On Friday pupils will spend the day in *Avignon*.

During the second week, our students will be with their French families. Some may be invited to go to a country/seaside home or even to go skiing. Those students who will be skiing will, in some instances, be required to pay for the ski pass and/or the hire of equipment. Those concerned will be informed in advance by their French partners. Please ensure that I am made aware of any such plans. If your son/daughter is going skiing or snowboarding, they will be covered under the school insurance policy on the understanding that they take all necessary safety precautions. We must insist, therefore, that they wear a helmet and do not ski slopes that are beyond their abilities.

It is the responsibility of all students to see individual subject teachers about work to be done while they are in Lyon. Obviously, they are not expected to carry out major projects but a couple of essays, together with some reading, is not unreasonable.

Needless to say, we expect courteous and considerate behaviour from our pupils throughout the exchange. Indeed, we reserve the right to send home immediately anyone whose behaviour is unacceptable. I should like to reiterate what was said at the parents' meeting in November regarding evening activities. We do encourage students to enjoy their time in Lyon with their French partners; however, students do not have the right to go out in the evening with other English pupils especially if their partner is not invited.

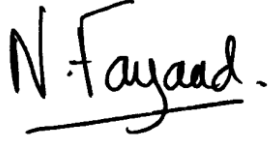
Remember!

- **Do not neglect your partner over here**
- **Speak French at all times when in Lyon!**

Please make sure that participants have a valid passport together with an EHIC (if in possession of an EU passport). It would be courteous to take a present for the host family and partner. During school days at Le Lycée du Parc, pupils should wear smart, casual clothes.

As soon as the timetable for French partners has been finalised, a copy will be given to your son/daughter. In the meantime, I wish everybody involved an enjoyable and enriching experience.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. Fayaud." with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Nathalie Fayaud

Head of French

[nmf@sevenoaksschool.org](mailto:nmf@sevenoaksschool.org)