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Headteacher: Mr. Aaron Wanford MA, B.Ed. (Hons), NPQH

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Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019

### Residential Trip to Cologne, Germany – October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're very pleased to inform you that we are intending to organise a trip to Cologne, Germany for next year's Year Five cohort (initially), for a total of three days during October.

The trip is an exciting opportunity for our children to experience a new country and try out their developing language skills they are learning in school, as well as experience a new culture, and create fantastic memories, which we hope they will look back on fondly for many years to come. We hope it will also support the building of their confidence, being away from home and in a new place, whilst being with adults from school.

As part of our 11B411 programme, aiming to give all children 11 unique experiences before they leave primary school, we aim to cross not just one border, but hopefully several on our way to Germany! We would really like as many children to come on the trip as possible, and as such we want to give as much notice as possible to enable this to happen. At this time, we are only asking the current Year Four parents (next year's Year Five), but depending on numbers, we may then ask other year groups.

To keep costs as low as possible, we are looking at coach travel to and from Germany, and organising the trip in association with Halsbury Travel, a specialist school tour operator with over 30 years' experience. Halsbury are fully bonded by ABTA and they are also members of the School Travel Forum and have been awarded the Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge. For more information on Halsbury, please visit click [here](#).

#### Proposed Itinerary

We have a provisional plan set out below for your consideration; however, it must be stressed that this is subject to change, depending on availability and pupil numbers:

##### Day 1

04.55 Coach arrives at school  
05.25 Coach departs school  
08.25 Arrive in Dover  
09.25 Ferry crossing  
11.55 Arrive in Calais, drive to Cologne  
  
18.00 Arrive in Cologne & check into accommodation  
Time for evening meal at your accommodation

## Day 2

Breakfast in accommodation

After breakfast group to visit the famous Gothic Cathedral (with guided tour included) before walking along the river to the Altstadt

Time for group to eat lunch

Visit the Chocolate Museum

Take the Rhine cable car for spectacular views of the city

Return to the accommodation

Evening meal in accommodation

## Day 3

Check out and breakfast in accommodation

09.45 Depart Cologne after breakfast

16.15 Arrive in Calais

17.15 Ferry crossing

17.45 Arrive in Dover

20.45 Arrive back at school

The trip would include:

- Return coach travel and ferry crossings
- Accommodation for 2 nights
- Entry to the Chocolate museum

What is not included:

- Spending money for gifts/souvenirs
- Rhine cable car experience (€2.50)

### Accommodation and Supervision

Accommodation would be at the [DJH Cologne Riehl](#) (or equivalent), who regularly accommodate school groups such as ours.

Supervision for the trip would be provided at the ratio of at least one adult to every 15 children, and a minimum of three adults would be attending.

### Cost

The cost of the trip is heavily dependent on the pupil numbers who wish to attend; as we will be using an executive coach, there are economies of scale with the greater number of children who attend. As such, we want to advise that the worst-case highest cost could be as much as £330 but could be £275 or lower if greater numbers of pupils sign up. We would be able to confirm the final cost of the trip once parents/carers have decided if their child would like to take part.

We are anticipating that our PTA will also subsidising the trip and will offer to pay a donation towards each child attending; this will be confirmed with pupil numbers and should mean that the highest price above is still avoided.

We want as many children to attend as possible, and so we are more than happy to let parents/carers pay for the trip in instalments over the next year or so, so that payment isn't needed all in one go. For those children eligible for Pupil Premium, we will subsidise the trip by a further £100; however, if any parent/carer is experiencing difficulties meeting the payment but is keen for their child to attend, please do come and talk to us.

### Next steps

At this stage, we are completing expressions of interest to gauge how many children might want to join us for the trip. No money or commitment is required, but I would ask that you return the reply slip attached by Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November so that we can decide on next steps.

Once we have an idea of numbers interested, we will know if we need to open the trip up to other year groups. We would then ask for a firm deposit of £50 which would be non-refundable to secure your child's place before the end of term.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please do come and speak with myself or one of the team. I hope this will be an amazing trip and experience for our children at Green Ridge, and hope that as many of the children can come along as possible.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Aaron Wanford  
Headteacher

# REPLY SLIP

## Residential Trip to Cologne, Germany October 2020

Name of child .....

Class .....

### Expression of Interest

*Please tick as appropriate:*

My child IS interested in attending the trip.

My child would NOT like to attend the trip.

Parent/carer name .....

Parent/carer signature .....

Date .....

PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASS TEACHER OR THE SCHOOL  
OFFICE BY 3:30pm on MONDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019