



09 July 2026

Dear Families

Maison Claire Fontaine 2026 - Final Arrangements

As I write this, our trip to Maison Claire Fontaine is less than 72 hours away! The excitement amongst students and staff alike is palpable, and we are looking forward to an extremely positive week in France.

Having met with students on Tuesday, I wanted to write to you to confirm some final arrangements ahead of our departure on Sunday morning.

Departure Time and Location

We will be departing from the public bus stop on Lewes Road, towards Forest Row, rather than from Bourg-de-Peage avenue, as this location is better lit and easier for the bus to turn around. To enable a smooth departure, we are asking all students to arrive no later than **6.10am** on Sunday morning. Staff will be at the bus stop from around **6.00am**. Due to the early start, we ask you to please be considerate of our neighbours - walking or car sharing wherever possible, saying your 'au revoir' at home before leaving, and not leaving engines running.

Passports

Passports should be handed to your child's group leader upon their arrival on Sunday. These will then be kept securely, returned to students only for border crossings during the trip. Without a passport, your child will not be able to travel, so please ensure these are brought with them on Sunday. Any further relevant documentation, such as Visas or proof of settled status in the UK, should also be given to your child's group leader on Sunday morning.

Weather Update

Since the information evening, the forecast for the week has changed significantly, with France in the grip of the same heatwave as we are currently experiencing in the UK. Temperatures are due to exceed 30 degrees every day, with 37 degrees expected upon our arrival on Sunday. Please pack accordingly, including sun cream, a refillable water bottle, and a hat (either a cap or wide-brimmed, to cover the neck). Please note that light clothing is advisable, although students must bring long trousers, leggings or tights for the circus activity and must have clothing covering their midriff and shoulders for the visit to Vézelay.

Food for the Travel Days

Finally, we would like to remind you that students will need a small amount of money - in pounds and euros - for the travel days to purchase breakfast and lunch on both Sunday and Friday. No food is allowed on the coach or in the dormitories, so we kindly ask students not to bring food with them.

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions via e-mail to sfrancis@sackvilleschool.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mr Sam Francis

Curriculum Team Leader Languages

