



06 June 2025

Dear Families

## Year 8 French Trip to Maison Claire Fontaine, Burgundy - July 2026

The Languages Department is delighted to offer our current Year 7 French students the opportunity to enjoy a fully immersive French experience at Maison Claire Fontaine, a renowned school trip provider based in Avallon, in the beautiful Burgundy Countryside. Across a five-day visit from Monday 13 July to Saturday 18 July 2026, students will be able to put the French they have learned in the classroom into practice in a range of practical scenarios, take part in artistic and creative workshops, and visit a beautiful part of France.

A week at Maison Claire Fontaine will see students take part in French lessons in the morning, focused on the rich culture, gastronomy and geography of Burgundy, and reinforcing many of the structures learned in their in-school French lessons. All lessons are delivered by qualified, native teachers of French.

In the afternoon and evening, supported by the same teachers and French-speaking language assistants, students will take part in a range of immersive activities - all delivered in French - including cooking a Tartouillat, the regional apple cake of the Burgundy region, designing and building mosaics to take home, shopping for a balanced lunch at a local market; before preparing it and presenting it in French to their fellow students, watching a circus performance, hiking through the lush Burgundy countryside, kayaking down the Cure river, and completing a scavenger hunt around the historic city of Dijon. All activities are conducted in French and are designed to develop students' confidence in speaking and understanding French, with an emphasis on using the language. You can find out more about Maison Claire Fontaine by clicking on this [link](#).

We have space for 45 students to join us on the trip. The total price for the visit is £695 per student, which is inclusive of return coach travel to and from Burgundy, on-site accommodation in the recently refurbished dormitories at MCF, all meals, experiences and activities. The only other cost to be factored in for students would be a small amount of spending money for souvenirs and food for the journey. Should you wish for your child to join us on the visit, an initial deposit payment of £60 is required, via the MCAS app, by 9.00am on Wednesday 25 June 2025.

Please note that deposits will only be refunded if the trip does not run, and that all monies forwarded to our tour provider are non-refundable. We never want the price to be a barrier to members of our Sackville Community accessing trips and visits and, if you require some assistance in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact us.

As this visit falls just before next year's curriculum enhancement days, we would then offer a chance for students to complete some French-related activities to support their experience when back in school. Students will still, if they wish, have the opportunity to instead attend other experiences during the curriculum enhancement days, but priority for other residential visits will be given to those students who have not been offered the opportunity to join us in Burgundy. We would hope to be able to accommodate students on the non-residential opportunities more easily, but will do what we can for all students.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail should you have any questions -  
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Yours sincerely

Mr Sam Francis  
**Curriculum Team Leader - Languages**