



**QUEENS' SCHOOL**  
*Dare to be a Linguist*

**Trips to France - Summer term**

**Boulogne-Sur-Mer - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June**

Our Year 7 students visited Boulogne-Sur-Mer, France, on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024. Reaching France was an easy yet adventurous experience for our students: after a drive to Dover and a ferry ride, we arrived in Calais: Boulogne is only a 20-minute drive away!

The day was marked by a visit to a local bakery, Le Fournil, where our students had the chance to understand how bread is made from scratch. They also had the opportunity of “getting their hands dirty” by understanding the process of making croissants and taking part in the making!



Later, we explored Boulogne old town: a picturesque walled town with colourful shops and historical buildings. Our students had the chance to explore the town independently, go shopping and use some French phrases.

Later in the evening, we started making our way back to Calais for our ferry: this was another great opportunity for our Year 7 to shop at the duty free.



This one-day visit for our Year 7 students was a fantastic way for them to gain some independence in a foreign country, discover a new town, use some transactional French phrases and learn how to make bread. Well done to our Year 7s!



**Normandy - Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

The French department organised a four-day residential visit for Year 9 and Year 10 students to Normandy, a region in northern France very well-known for its rich cuisine culture, cheese and dairy farms, and colourful towns. Also, Normandy was the epicentre of the fight against the Nazis during World War II.

Our journey started From Queens', early in the morning. After a smooth crossing of the English Channel, we made our way down the northern coast of France, stopping at the charming harbour town of Honfleur, for a first taste of French culture and some needed lunch.



**QUEENS' SCHOOL**  
*Dare to be Great*

**Daring to be *Great* by pursuing our values of Scholarship, Tenacity, Altruism and Respect**





Our group stayed at the Kyriad Hotel in Carentan Les Marais, a small charming town in the heart of Normandy. This was the best starting point for our group to discover the area and reach different destinations every day. Additionally, the hotel was one of the best places for our students to practise their French: any request to the receptionist or in the dining hall had to be in French!

Our first excursion was to a local old mill, where we all learned all the steps that go from a grain of wheat to a loaf of bread: students had a go at crushing wheat seeds with a stone to produce flour. They competed in three different teams and the winning team managed to produce 28 grams of flour! Still a long way to make a loaf of bread!



Another eye-opening excursion was to the American cemetery and the German cemetery, the 360 cinema with the history of the region during the war, the town of Arromanches-les-Bains and the historical Omaha beach. These visits helped our students understand a little bit more about the causes and the consequences of World War II.

In order to get in touch with nature and understand a little bit more about cheese making, we visited the Mesnil goat farm in Carentan. The owner of the farm showed us the goats and taught us about their life. After, our students had the chance to taste a selection of different types of soft cheese.



Lastly, our Year 9 and 10 students visited a number of towns in Normandy where they really had the chance to discover more about French food, explore, and use their French. We visited Caen and its local colourful market, Cherbourg and its harbour, and finally Deauville.



Normandy was a very exciting experience for our student who are studying or will be studying a language at GCSE: they were independently explored a foreign town and got by in French with greetings and buying items. Well done to our Year 9 and Year 10 students!

### Trip to Spain

#### Madrid- 24th to the 28th of June

36 enthusiastic students from Years 9 and 10 embarked on an unforgettable adventure to Madrid. Our home for the trip was a centrally located hostel in the vibrant neighbourhood of Chueca, providing the perfect base for immersing ourselves in the culture and lifestyle of the city.

Our five-day itinerary was packed with exciting activities, starting with exploring the picturesque streets of Madrid and indulging in delicious local cuisine. A highlight was visiting the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium, where students learned about the rich history of Real Madrid.

We also took a day trip to the stunning city of Toledo, capturing its breathtaking landscapes and visiting the Alcázar. Back in Madrid, we marveled at the Royal Palace and enjoyed the panoramic views from Almudena Cathedral.

Art enthusiasts were thrilled by our visits to the Prado Museum and Reina Sofía, where students admired masterpieces by Goya, Velázquez, El Bosco, and El Greco, and viewed Picasso's iconic "Guernica."

Our final day was spent experiencing Madrid like locals, with a picnic and leisurely strolls in El Retiro Park. The students had a blast renting boats on the lake, soaking up the sunny weather.

This trip provided a wealth of cultural and educational experiences, leaving us all with cherished memories and a deeper appreciation for Spanish heritage.

