



30th September 2013

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Taizé pilgrimage 2014

As you may be aware, for the last two years we have run a school pilgrimage to the Taizé community in France. We took part in The Taizé 'UK schools week' with 300 other UK school pupils and around 3000 young people from all over the world who were present in Taizé those weeks. The experience has been extremely successful, our pupils had an amazing time and we were extremely proud of the way they took a full enthusiastic part in the programme and gave their all.

We are going to run another pilgrimage to Taizé next summer. All students from year 10 are invited. The trip will run during activities week towards the end of the summer term. The only reason someone could be denied a place is if we feel that we cannot trust them to maintain a high standard of behaviour.

The Taizé Community is a monastic community founded after WWII. Today there are around 100 brothers who have committed their lives to living a common life in simplicity of heart as a concrete sign of God's love in the world. Since the early 1960s tens of thousands of young adults each year have travelled there week in week out to take part in the international youth meetings hosted by the brothers. Lots more information can be found on the Taizé website: www.taize.fr/en. It is a large and complex website, the more you explore, the more you will find! You can watch the video 'Life in Taizé' here: http://www.taize.fr/en_article4768.html

Taizé is a trip that is religious in nature but anyone considering taking part does not need to be religious or have any religious background. They simply need to be willing to take part in the programme, meet new people and go on an adventure! I have been to Taizé with close to 100 different young people from all sorts of backgrounds and they have all, without exception had a good time. If someone is unsure the best thing to do is speak to someone who went last year.

Practical details

We will meet at Goring Station on the afternoon of Saturday 12th July 2014 at around 2pm (TBC) and we will return to Goring station on Monday 21nd July at around 11am (TBC). We will travel by train, coach and ferry.

In Taizé we will be camping in tents which we will take with us. The school owns several three person tents which can be borrowed.

The cost of the trip will be £245 which includes all travel, meals and camping fees at Taizé, the daily programme at Taizé, administration costs and insurance. We need a non-returnable deposit by Monday 9th December of £45 to secure a place, then four further payments of £50 need to be paid according to the schedule on the next page. You could also pay in full at any time.

If you or your child have any questions I can be contacted at school.

Yours, 
Mr S Emerson
Pilgrimage leader

Taizé 2014

Finance information and application form

The cost of the trip will be £245. Please pay a non-returnable deposit of £45 to secure a place then four payments of £50 which need to be paid by the following dates:

- ☆ Monday 3 Feb
- ☆ Monday 3 March
- ☆ Tuesday 6 May
- ☆ Monday 9 June

Please pay online via our website - click on the Wisepay button on the left and log in. If you have lost your log-in information please request a new password via the Wisepay link.

If any student wishes to take part, but current circumstances make it difficult to meet the charge, please telephone our Business Manager, Mrs Leigh, in confidence to discuss whether it is possible to reach some mutual agreement.

If your child requires a visa to travel to France then please contact Mr Emerson before making any payments.

Please return this form to the school office in an envelope marked 'Taizé 2013'

My child would like to apply for a place on the Taizé Pilgrimage 2013.

Name of Student:	Tutor group:
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I enclose a cheque for £45 made payable to CCHS

I have paid online using wisepay.

I enclose a cheque for £245 made payable to CCHS

I have read the attached letter and I give consent for my child to take part in this visit.

Signed: Relationship to student:	Date:
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Medical forms and other requests for information will follow at a later date.