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Dear Parents,

I hope you are all relaxed and content to see your children off for the next week and wanted to reassure you that they will be in good hands.

The journey is long and tiring and, as always, there will be a momentary blip on arrival as it can seem overwhelming at first. This is part of the adventure! With that in mind (and I know some of you will ignore this anyway!) can I reiterate what I said at the meeting at Holy Trinity; which is that if you could restrict contact with your child to an absolute minimum they will have a considerably more enjoyable time! A short message to say we've arrived and then follow us on the event's website.

If you have a concern or query, please direct them through me as the local school will direct everything to me anyway as they simply cannot cope with 200 sets of anxious parents querying lost socks and minor ailments. We have two very experienced teachers accompanying just 8 kids and have the full backup of the local school for any emergencies.

Historically the only kids who have not got the very most from this amazing experience have been those who have felt compelled to give a running commentary to their parents. I am encouraging everyone to keep a diary, which they can share with you on their return. Also; Mrs Banfield and I will be sending you daily photographs of our exploits so please, please, please enjoy our trip from a distance rather than coming with us through social media! 5 years ago one pupil ran up a bill of over £200 on her mobile!

Please intend to arrive at Heathrow in good time, my mobile is 0796 426 9910 and I'm intending to be in the Departure Hall from 20:00.

I am really looking forward to this trip, we have a great bunch of kids and a wonderful week ahead of us.

Any last minute queries need to be with me by 15:00 today please, as we'll be driving from then!

Mike



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