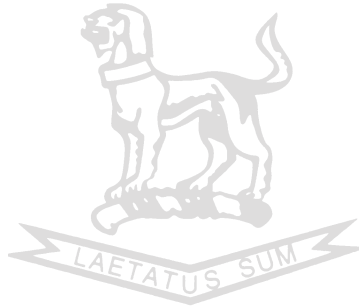




Holmwood House

Les Ambassadeurs

2016-17 Academic Year



Happiness is the key to progress

Introduction

Now in its twenty third year, Les Ambassadeurs is our exciting activity-based holiday course held in French and English for children in Years 2-6. The course teachers come from Holmwood House and Ombrosa School in Lyon.

The course provides a wonderful opportunity for children to meet and form lasting relationships in the atmosphere of a French 'exchange', without your children needing to leave the country!



Les Ambassadeurs is by far the most popular trip offered by Ombrosa School to its pupils. Ombrosa is a bi-lingual school and the French children all speak very good English. They will encourage the English children to speak French. Many of the children who have attended this course over the past years have seen their French friends regularly since; some have even been to stay with their French friends in Lyon.

The aim of the course

The course itself is informal with the emphasis on learning French in a fun and supportive environment. The English children spend each day with the French children, learn French songs and games, teach English songs and games, and join in the numerous activities on offer such as art, craft, music, cookery, water dodge ball, water volleyball, swimming, drama, ICT, sports, science, quizzes and archery. All of these are taught using both languages, with a focus on improving the English children's communication in French and their acquisition of French vocabulary.



Our staff will encourage the children to express themselves at the dinner table in French through the provision of key structures. Play times are a mix of free time and more structured games such as boules, marbles, wacky races, skittles, tug-of-war and skipping, which are also conducted in French.



The children are given the space to develop friendships and are encouraged to invite a French child to tea at their homes. The week ends with a gathering of all participants to complete a final linguistic challenge. There is also an opportunity to exchange small gifts and cards.

Hosting a French child

Each year we have more than 80 children from Ombrosa participate in the course. As we have a limited number of beds at Holmwood House, some children may not be able to come unless we can find Holmwood families to host them. Unfortunately this option is not currently available for non-Holmwood participants. The French child would be staying with you from Monday evening until the following Saturday morning.

We try to find a child from Ombrosa with similar interests to your child. It is very important that both of the children enjoy their experience. The French children who apply to go to families have all been away to England before and are generally able to cope with homesickness. As a general rule we only allow one French child to stay in each English family so that they make the most of their linguistic experience in England. If we find a suitable French child for you to host, there is no course fee. On occasions, we may be unable to find a French child for you to host in which case the full course fee will be payable.

If you wish to host a French child, we should be grateful if you would indicate this on the application form.

Dates - 2017

French children arrive:	Monday 3 April Tuesday 4 April - Friday 7 April
Course dates:	Saturday 8 April
French children leave:	9.30am-5.00pm (5.30pm on Friday 7 April).
Course times:	Course fee for non-hosting HH children: £160 (10% discount for second child)
Fees:	Course fee for hosting HH Children: £65 Course fee for non-HH children: £180
Extended stays:	If you wish to drop your child off earlier than 9.30am or collect later than 5.00pm, this will incur a surcharge of £5 per extended stay.



The application process

You can apply for a place on the course either by clicking on the link in the accompanying clarion (HH parents), by visiting the Les Ambassadeurs page on the Holmwood House website and clicking on the link there (non-HH parents), or by following this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/1QW4Tlisl6MtDwt32>

Once your application and payment have been received, you will be sent confirmation of a place on the course.

Holmwood families wishing to host will be contacted early in 2017 and asked to complete a hosting form in order that we can match their child up with a suitable French child.

Prior to the course start, you will receive a course guide containing information about the week and details of who to contact in case of emergency.

At the start of the course your child will receive their Les Ambassadeurs t-shirt.

Please note that the closing dates for booking are: **Friday 27 January 2017 (Hosting)**
Friday 11 March 2017 (Non-hosting)

If you have any questions prior to completing the application form, please contact Miss Rachel Godman via rsg@holmwood.house.



What your child will need to bring for the course

- Play clothes
- Swimming costume, goggles (if required) and a towel
- Any medication they might be taking

Snacks at breaktimes as well as a lunch are provided by the school for the children on each day.

Please note we operate a strict no-nuts policy.

