



3rd April 2019

Dear Parents

The fact that the main historical focus of our trip to Normandy was D Day is somewhat appropriate since D Day succeeded primarily due to factors such as teamwork, organisation, courage and the willingness to adapt to changing circumstances as they present themselves.

From the efficiency of your wonderfully prompt arrival for our departure on Monday morning (and I must emphasise my gratitude for your efforts in this respect, it makes such a huge difference to start a demanding trip organised and on time!) to our return to Norwich on Friday, the qualities outlined above were much in evidence over the course of the week.

On the way back to Norwich we played the film *The Greatest Showman* in the coach, 'where is Mr Kendrick going with this?' you may be thinking to yourself. In essence, I was unfamiliar with the film, yet it dawned on me as I watched, that, in many respects, there were many parallels between PT Barnum's Circus of unusual and exotic characters and the Year 6 Humanities Trip. For example, whilst the trip has definitive academic and social aims and objectives it is, from a practical perspective, composed of a group of sixty different, in many cases radically different people, with vastly different personalities, life-experiences, strengths and weaknesses, emotions, not to mention the character curiosities, peculiarities and idiosyncrasies that do so much to define who we are. In other words, in advance of the trip there was at least as much which separated and divided us as people as brought us together.

And yet, what separated us before our departure was little in evidence during the week whereas what united us – enthusiasm, interest, intelligence, good-manners, healthy appetites and an altogether outgoing and outward-looking perspective on life - was readily apparent and much to the fore. Consequently, aided by glorious weather, we had a most marvellous week, one that I shall remember with much happiness for many years to come, even my immersion with Milo Clabburn in the river (I say river, that suggests glamorous bravery, whereas 15cm of stream is rather sadly the more prosaic truth!) whilst retrieving a football!

Many thanks to all parents and children of Year 6 – Happy Easter.

Regards

Richard Kendrick