

# 2025-2026 London Update Newsletter

October 2025 Volume 4, Issue 17

### All Participant Meeting = Sunday, November 23, 2025 @ 7:00-9:00 p.m.

### Please mark this on your calendar!

We need ALL PARTICIPANTS and any of their family members to attend. There are SO MANY things to cover.

On a personal level, I don't feel comfortable taking your students and families overseas without meeting in-person to discuss expectations, answer questions, pass out forms, etc.

### Final Payment = due Monday, October 27, 2025

#### Final Bill from London = October 10

On Friday, October 10, we will receive a final bill for our last payment to London. I will use this amount to determine our total final cost.

- This final bill includes remaining variable costs: fuel surcharges for buses, fuel surcharges for flights, adjustments for the conversion rate for dollars vs. pounds, etc.

### Kringle, Coffee, Poinsettias, Call Night, and More = October 16

On Thursday, October 16, our last fundraisers wrap up; after that date, I should know more about our outstanding fundraising monies to add to accounts: kringle, coffee, poinsettias, call night, website donations, etc.

### **Balance Notification = October 20**

On Monday, October 20, I will send out a final Balance Notification for the remainder of your bill. Included in this bill are Grandstand Tickets and Single Room Supplements.

### Final Bill Due = October 27

On Monday, October 27, all payments are due. There is no extension we can offer, no "I'll get it in tomorrow," and no flexibility from London. **You must adhere to this due date!** 

# **London Apparel Fall Sale**

Here is the link for our Fall Apparel Sale. Orders open now! Orders due Thursday, October 16 @ 3:30 p.m., late orders will NOT be accepted.

# Kringle, Coffee, Poinsettias Fundraisers

<u>Click here</u> for more information regarding our fall Kringle, Coffee, and Poinsettia fundraisers. All orders due Thursday, October 16 @ 3:30 p.m., late orders will NOT be accepted.

### **Groups, Chaperones, and Airplanes = Now Posted**

Please click on this <u>link for the Airport Stuff and Airplane Stuff</u> document, where you can find everything you need regarding airport and airplane procedures.

The last page of this document contains a link to a spreadsheet listing *Groups, Chaperones, and Airplanes* for our trip. A few notes about this spreadsheet:

- We were able to accommodate every request made in the Rooms, Groups, Chaperones Google Form
- Mr. Dorner personally talked to over 125 participants to ensure this form represents the best option for all participants
- Column H (Group Number) is simply a way for me to sort by group; please ignore this column
- Column I (Airplane Group) refers to the flight group you'll be a part of; names in Blue are "land-only" and not flying with our group

### **Gala Concert Tickets**

The Choir and Orchestra will perform in London as part of the Gala Concert Series. This concert will take place on Tuesday, December 30 @ 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are free and the concert is open to the public. We had seats already reserved for all trip participants who are not members of Choir or Orchestra.

This concert takes place in <u>Holy Trinity Church in Sloane Square</u>, a beautiful Anglican church built in the late 1800s. Holy Trinity was designed in the Arts and Crafts style by architect John Dando Sedding and paid for by the 5th Earl Cadogan. The church is known for its wide space, stunning stained glass windows, and detailed decoration by famous artists like William Morris. It was damaged during World War II but later repaired, and saved from demolition in the 1960s by people who wanted to protect historic buildings.

# Things We'll See = Six

It's been a while since we included something fun in a London Update!

Six is a fun and modern musical where the six wives of King Henry VIII are reimagined as pop stars. Each wife takes turns singing about her life with Henry and why she had the hardest time. The songs are full of energy, humor, and emotion, with each queen showing her unique personality. The music is inspired by famous pop stars like Beyoncé and Adele, making the show feel like a concert.

As the story goes on, the queens realize they don't need to compete over who had it worst. Instead, they celebrate their strength and take control of their own stories. *Six* turns history into an exciting show about girl power, friendship, and standing up for yourself. It's a fast-paced, fun, and powerful musical that has become popular around the world.



## Things We'll See = Tower of London

Reprinted from London Update Volume 4, Issue 1

The Tower of London, located on the banks of the River Thames in central London, is a historic fortress and one of the most famous landmarks in the United Kingdom. Originally built by William the Conqueror in 1066 as part of the Norman Conquest of England, it has been expanded and modified over the centuries. The Tower's primary role was as a royal residence, military stronghold, and symbol of power. It served as the royal family's main defensive structure in the heart of London, with the White Tower, its central keep, still standing as a key feature of the complex.

Throughout its history, the Tower of London has also been used for a variety of other purposes, including as a prison, treasury, armory, and royal mint. Many famous historical figures were imprisoned within its walls, such as Anne Boleyn, Thomas More, and Elizabeth I before her reign. It is also the site of several notable executions, including those of two of Henry VIII's wives. The Tower's role as a prison gradually declined after the 18th century, but its symbolic importance remained strong throughout the centuries.





Today, the Tower of London is a popular tourist attraction and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It houses the Crown Jewels, which are displayed for public viewing, and is guarded by the famous Yeoman Warders, also known as Beefeaters. Visitors can explore its various towers, including the Bloody Tower and the medieval walls, and learn about its long and varied history through interactive exhibits. The Tower continues to be a symbol of British history, power, and intrigue.

### **Participant Health Form**

# Due Sunday, November 23, 2025

All participants must complete a health form and an insurance form; these forms travel with us at all times and ensure we are covered to administer care in case of an emergency. Because these forms are used to provide information to medical professionals in case of an emergency, we need every participant to fill out a form.

### **Notes About Health Forms and Insurance Forms**

- EVERY PARTICIPANT must complete an individual form (not just students, not just one member of each family, but EVERY PARTICIPANT)
- These forms *must be notarized*. You can get this done:
  - Contact a local notary public (your bank usually has one available by appointment)
  - You must sign this document in the presence of a notary public
  - Contact our district notary <u>Chelsie Hedges</u> and make an appointment to meet her at the Mt.
     Horeb District Office during business hours (you will NOT be able to walk in for this service, you must make an appointment)

Medical Release Form, Insurance Information LNYDP

### **Checklist of Stuff to Get Done**

Thank you for helping get these completed! Double check the deadlines below.

Passport copies/scans now past due August 15, 2025 We've collected 204 of 208 copies
<u>UK ETA</u> confirmation now past due August 15, 2025 We've collected 197 of 208 confirmations
Google Form now past due Friday, September 5, 2025 We've had 204 of 208 responses
WhatsApp now past due Friday, September 19, 2025 132/208 We've added 173 of 208 participants
<u>Background checks</u> now past due Friday, September 19, 2025  We will eventually notify you regarding your completion of this; we are unable to do this any quicker at this time.
Instrument Information now past due Friday, October 3, 2025
Participant Meeting on Sunday, November 23, 2025 @ 7:00-9:00 p.m.