

# TWINNING NEWSLETTER MAY 26

*le muguet*

May already ! May 1<sup>st</sup> is a big thing in France.

Traditionally, small bunches of Lily of the Valley were given as gifts and in more recent times the May Day workers' holiday has become very important. This year it was of course on Friday... the French love a nice, long weekend !

Other public holidays in May this year are: May 8<sup>th</sup> ( VE Day ), May 14<sup>th</sup> ( Ascension ) & May 25<sup>th</sup> ( Whit Monday ).

There was an attempt made in 2025 by the government to dismiss two of the 11 public holidays each year and improve productivity..... but the French were not at all keen ! They don't celebrate Easter as much as we do..... day off on Easter Monday but not Good Friday... and schools are not necessarily on holiday then ( depending on the date. Skiing dates are very important ). Since the Revolution, France has supposedly been a secular society ..... but they have kept Whit and Ascension, whereas we haven't !



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Longueville are busy preparing for their four yearly visit to Labergement at Ascension, which will give them 4 days there. The drive across France takes many hours.

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The news is that other European countries may follow Greece in lifting the biometric border controls over the summer. We can only hope that France follows suit and keeps it permanent !

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We'll hope for some photos from Labergement for our June newsletter..... and we are now online with News & Views.

Good luck wishes to George and Charlie for their A Levels and *Bonnes Vacances* to all heading off on May holidays !

