**Listening Comprehension First Year January 2017**

***Please give the students the meaning of BROOMSTICK and WAND, and explain that THE LEAKY CAULDRON is the name of a pub.***

Hello everyone! Good morning and welcome to our “Walking Tour of Harry Potter’s London”. Fortunately for us, the heavy rain stopped just over an hour ago, though I can’t say it’s exactly bright and sunny. Well, we’ve got a lot of walking to do, so I’ll just quickly remind you of the places we’ll be visiting, and then we’ll start our tour. //

Right, the first destination will be London Zoo, or more precisely, the Reptile House, where Harry first discovered his ability to speak Parseltongue, which, as you know, is the ability to talk to serpents. The Reptile House is home to some of the largest snakes on earth, so I hope none of you has a phobia about snakes! If you have, you can go and talk to the pandas or giraffes or something!. //

Well, next we visit Tower Bridge. As most Harry Potter fans will know, in the book called **The Order of the Phoenix,** Harry flies along the Thames and over Tower Bridge on his broomstick. We won’t be trying that ourselves today, of course, so anyone who’s brought their broomstick along will be sadly disappointed! However Tower Bridge itself, with its colourful boats on the river below, will surely compensate for that! //

By the way, several bridges appear in the **Harry** books besides Tower Bridge: we have Millennium Bridge, which is destroyed by Death Eaters, and Lambeth Bridge, where the Knight Bus was squeezed between two double-decker buses. //

The next two places on our tour are most interesting. The first is the famous King’s Cross station, where platforms 4 and 5 were used in the actual filming of the books, and where a wall built especially for the film now commemorates “Platform Nine-and-Three-Quarters”. Many visitors have photographed friends trying to push a trolley through the wall, just as Harry and his friends did in the books. //

Next, we visit Leadenhall Market. Leadenhall is a covered Victorian market that features in several Harry Potterfilms. In the films it has been given the name of **Diagon Alley**, home to **Ollivander’s** wand shop, where Harry bought his very first magic wand, and it is also the site of **The Leaky Cauldron,** where the characters often met up for a glass of strange beer or a cup of magic tea. //

Although we won’t be able to visit **The Leaky Cauldron** , the plan is to stop walking for a bit and find another place in the area to rest our legs and have a welcome cup of coffee or tea before continuing our tour. //

Don’t worry, to get to our last place, we don’t actually intend to make you walk, but we will take the Tube to Piccadilly Circus where you can walk, or rather, run, in the footsteps of Harry, Ron and Hermione: Piccadilly Circus is, in fact, where they were filmed running in **The Deathly Hollows** in order to escape the Death Eaters. //

Anyway, there’s nothing like London to make you feel hungry, so before the end of the tour we’ll be stopping somewhere nice for a proper sit-down lunch, which most of you might find the best part of the tour! //

Have you brought the things we suggested bringing in the pamphlet? Got your water-bottles, cameras, and Harry Potter Maps ready? By the way, you won’t need much cash, except for the Tube and souvenirs, as all the food and drink are included. Right then. Off we go! //