

19 October 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Ypres and the Somme Trip from 25/09/2018 to 28/09/2018

The Humanities Department is proposing to take a four day guided history tour to the First World War battlefields in Ypres, Belgium and the Somme in France, from Tuesday 25th September 2018 to Friday 28th September 2018.

In Year 9 your son/daughter will study the First World War in depth. Whilst this is an optional visit, it would be an ideal opportunity for your child to gain first-hand knowledge of what actually happened there 100 years ago, as well as pay their respects to those who died there.

Our tour will include visits to many different sites that will enable our students to see the impact of the war on both sides of the fighting as well as the suffering that it caused. During the first two days we will visit the Wellington Quarry in Arras, the 'Pool of Peace', the 'Trench of Death' and Sanctuary Wood (Hill 62). The students will have the opportunity to go into the trenches and remaining tunnels to see just what life in the war was really like. We will also visit Tyne Cot Cemetery followed by the German cemetery at Langemarck.

One evening we will walk into Ypres town to take part in the 'Last Post Ceremony' at the Menin Gate. The Menin Gate is a famous memorial that contains the names of around 50,000 men whose remains were never recovered from the battlefields in the area. This moving tribute takes place every day at 8pm and some of our students will have the chance to take part and represent their school.

On the third day we will travel back into France and visit some of the sites on the Somme Battlefield. These might include the Thiepval Memorial, the mine crater at La Boisselle, the Ulster Monument and trenches, Beaumont Hamel and Newfoundland Park.

On the final day we will depart our accommodation after breakfast for one further visit if time permits, to the Canadian memorial at Vimy Ridge, before returning to Calais and the Eurotunnel Terminal.

We will stay for three nights at CJT DE IEP, near Ypres town. This is on a full board basis. During our time here one of our evenings will also include a chance to go bowling.

Here is a sample itinerary for the trip: (All times are subject to change and will be confirmed nearer the visit.)

Tuesday 25th September 2018			
	Depart school	05:00	By coach
	Arrive Folkestone	10:30	
	Depart Le Shuttle	14:00	Visit Wellington Quarry Arras
	Arrive in Ypres	18:30	
	In Ypres over night		
Wednesday 26th September			
	Leave hostel	09:30	Visit Ypres Salient
	Take part in Last Post Ceremony	20:00	
Thursday 27th September			
	Leave hostel	09:30	Visit Somme Battlefields
Friday 28th September			
	Leave hostel	08:30	Visit Vimy Ridge
	Depart Calais Le Shuttle	14:30	
	Arrive at Fairfield	19:00	

The tour price is £325.00. This includes all transport costs, travel insurance, accommodation and museum entrance. **Students will need their own passports and a valid EHIC card to enable them to travel.**

Information regarding this will follow. The accommodation is on a full board basis. Students will need to have some spending money to purchase any extra drinks, food or souvenirs as required. Students will also need to be provided with a packed lunch for Day 1 by you.

The trip is open to **all students** in Year 8 (who will be in Year 9 when the visit takes place). In order to confirm a place on this visit for your son/daughter we require a £85.00 deposit immediately. Please complete and return the attached form together with the deposit. That payment needs to be made via the ParentPay facility and if anyone does not have their log on details then we can get them out to you. Should you have difficulty in paying the deposit at this point, but would still like your child to go, please contact me as soon as possible. Once students have been allocated a place on the trip, the deposit is **non-refundable**.

This trip is extremely popular; if it is oversubscribed then places will be allocated at random and we will keep a waiting list. All applications for the trip will need to be approved by the Senior Leadership Team before any student places are confirmed.

The remainder of the tour cost will be paid in three instalments.

£80.00 will be due on 16th January 2018
 £80.00 will be due on 20th March 2018
 £80.00 will be due on 12th June 2018 (final instalment).

Please note that poor behaviour in school and/or poor attendance prior to the event may prevent your child from going on the trip. We will consider carefully whether to take any child who exhibits behaviour that might put themselves, other students or staff at risk. Whilst we will discuss our concerns with parents and carers, the school's decision is final.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Eggerton
 Head of Humanities

Guided History Tour of the First World War Battlefields
Tuesday 25th September 2018 to Friday 28th September 2018.

Name of Student

Form

I would like my son/daughter to take part in the above visit. I will be using Parentpay to pay £85 deposit. I understand acceptance on the trip is on a first come, first served basis and subject to SLT approval.

Signed parent/carer

Date.....