



October 2023

Dear Parent,

Headteacher - Patrick Earnshaw
Deputy Headteacher - Mathew Downs

Year 8 History and First World War Battlefields Trip – 19th- 22nd July 2024

The school is delighted to announce that we will be running a four-day trip to the Battlefields of France and Belgium. We have run this trip very successfully previously, and students enjoyed the unforgettable and emotional experience. There are 52 places available on the trip and places are secured by registering your interest via WisePay before the spaces are randomly allocated. In the event the trip is over-subscribed a reserve list will be operated.

This will be a two-centre trip. Our intended itinerary will include visits to Beaumont Hamel and Sunken Lane, to contemplate the massacre which occurred there. We will also visit the vast Lochnagar Crater at La Boisselle. The second day will consist of a series of visits to other key sites in Flanders Fields: including Hooze Crater trench experience, where students will get to dress in soldier uniform and compare soldiers rations before a guided visit to the emotive British Cemetery at Tyne Cot, the largest Commonwealth military cemetery in the world. After the evening meal in Ypres we will participate in the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate where students will get to lie a wreath as part of the ceremony. A day will also be spent studying the Ypres Salient, beginning with the Yser Tower Museum which takes a more personal look at the Belgian army's experiences in the trench and an emphasis on the peacefulness of the area. We will also visit Vladslo, the German Military Cemetery. After an opportunity to walk around the area, including a visit to a chocolate shop. The final day will see us visit the beautiful city of Bruges.

World War One is studied in Year 9 History and the Battlefields trip is a great starting point to bring that topic to life in the classroom.

Travel will be by coach, which is available for our exclusive use throughout the stay, crossing from Dover to Calais by ferry. We will be leaving very early on Friday 19th July and returning to school in the evening of Monday 22nd July.

The cost of the trip is £560 per student. This price will include all accommodation and meals abroad, entrance fees and coach travel to and from Highcliffe. Students will need a small amount of money for spending at the chocolate shop, on souvenirs and additional drinks or snacks.

Places are limited on this trip, if your child is interested in attending, WisePay will open for a register of interest on Tuesday 17th October. Only students who have registered their interest for this trip on WisePay, will be given an opportunity to attend.

Once accepted on the trip, a non-refundable deposit of £150 will be required to secure a place on the trip.

There will then be three further instalments; £150 due in January and £130 due in both February and March. Payment should be made using the school's on-line WisePay facility. Please make a note of your WisePay receipt reference, as you will need to provide this on the consent form. Receipts are generated automatically on WisePay and sent to the email address you supply when making the payment.

Please be aware that the Headteacher will consider attendance and behaviour before the trip commences. If they are not acceptable prior to the trip, parents will be consulted and where time allows, be involved in achieving a positive resolution. Where participation is disallowed this may result in the partial or full loss of trip costs.

Yours faithfully,



Miss Roberts
Head of History

