

November 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: History Trip WWI Battlefields – 28th February – 2nd March 2019

Following previous successful trips, we are offering the opportunity for Year 9 students to spend some time in France in order to gain a better understanding of WWI by visiting some of the important battlefields and sites in France. The trip is being organised by the history department and will assist in some of the important elements of the Key Stage 3 history curriculum. We also intend it to be an enjoyable experience in its own right!

The trip will take place from 28th February – 2nd March 2019 and is being organised via the NST Travel Group, a reputable company which organises residential trips for secondary school students. We shall be staying at the NST's own base, the Château d'Ebblinghem near St Omer in northern France which is close to many of the places we wish to visit. We will stay in the self-contained accommodation at the Château which is purpose-built for school groups; meals are provided by NST. Travel will be by coach to Dover followed by a Eurotunnel crossing to Calais and transfer to the Château d'Ebblinghem again by coach. Details of these travel arrangements will be confirmed nearer the time.

The cost of the trip is £295. We shall require a deposit of £150 now, followed by one further payments of £145 each to be made by the end of January. Activities will consist of visits to sites of historic interest connected to topics on the Year 9 history curriculum (First & Second World Wars) and excursions to places of cultural interest. In the evenings, games and activities will be organised by our tour guides.

We are hoping to take 35 students and 4 members of staff. If you would like your daughter to go on this trip, then please **pay the deposit of £150 and fill in the online consent survey (link is in WisePay) by Friday 7th December**. We will be unable to accept deposits/consent after this date. If the trip is oversubscribed, a ballot will be held to allocate places and a waiting list opened. If your daughter is successful in this ballot, you will then make one more payment of £145 by the end of January. If your daughter is not successful your deposit will be returned to you. If your daughter has been allocated a place and subsequently withdraws, the deposit will be non-refundable to cover administration costs, and the remaining monies paid will only be refunded to you if we are able to replace her with someone from the waiting list, as the cost is based on a certain number of students going.

To pay, simply login to your WisePay account details. If you need a reminder of your WisePay login please e-mail n.hopkins@holt.wokingham.sch.uk. In the event of difficulties using this system, please telephone Mrs Hopkins the School Trips Administrator.

In case of severe financial hardship please contact Ms Royle, Assistant Headteacher, who may be able to put you in touch with agencies that could help or to discuss the situation.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Furlong
Head of History