

October 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: History Trip WWI Battlefields – 17th June – 19th June 2020

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 17th June – 19th June 2020 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 Ypres Lodge near Ypres 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 lodge 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 Ypres Lodge again by coach. Details of these travel arrangements will be confirmed nearer the time.

The cost of the trip is £320.00. We shall require a deposit of £150 now, followed by one further payment of £170 to be made by the end of November. 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 40 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 Wednesday 23rd October**. 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 £170 by the end of November. If your daughter is not successful your deposit will be returned to you. If your daughter is allocated a place and subsequently withdraws, any costs already incurred will be deducted from your deposit before it is refunded. In these circumstances, we will seek to replace your daughter with someone from the waiting list in order to minimise the cost to you.

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 Mrs Martin, 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