



17 October 2018

pnb/pmt/battlefieldsjune19ltr1

Dear Parents

Yr 9 Visit to the Battlefields of the First World War – Saturday 8 to Wednesday 12 June 2019

The History Department is proposing to take a residential site visit to Belgium from Saturday 8 to Wednesday 12 June 2019. The trip is to support the study of World War One in Year 9 History. Places will be allocated by drawing names from a hat should the trip be oversubscribed.

The proposed itinerary is as follows:--

Day 1: Saturday 8 June

Depart for a morning ferry crossing to arrive at accommodation, the Peace Village in Mesen Belgium. En route, we visit the Passchendaele Museum for the British Dugout and German Trench Experience. Followed by Tyne Cot British Cemetery and Langemark German Cemetery. Evening meal will be provided at the Peace Village.

Day 2: Sunday 9 June

Drive to the Somme for visits to the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, Lochnagar Crater, a guided tour of Newfoundland Memorial Park and the 1961 Somme Museum in Albert. All meals are provided for the day including the evening meal back at the accommodation.

Day 3: Monday 10 June

After breakfast, we will drive to Arras to visit the Wellington Quarry. In the afternoon we will visit the Warlencourt British Cemetery to locate the grave of the Marlborough Soldier. Followed by visit to Devonshire Cemetery. After dinner, there will be a visit to Leonidas Chocolate Shop and a walk to the Menin Gate to attend the Last Post Ceremony.

Day 4: Tuesday 11 June

The day will be spent in and around Ypres. We shall visit Sanctuary Wood, Essex Farm, and Tyne Cot. In addition, we will stop at the Poperinge execution cells, Noel Chavasse Grave, (double VC winner) and Lisjenhoek field Hospital. There will be some free time in Ypres. All meals are provided for the day including an evening meal by the accommodation.

Day 5: Wednesday 12 June

Depart from the Peace Village with a stop at the Hooze Crater Museum, where we will take a guided tour of their reconstructed trench system. We then continue on the port for an afternoon return on the ferry. Breakfast and packed lunch is provided.

This itinerary is for illustrative purposes only and all visits will be finalised after our booking.

Under the Education Reform Act, some of the costs involved with this trip are voluntary, however I have to emphasise that this visit cannot go ahead unless parents are willing to make a contribution of **£466.00**. By making the deposit payment of **£100.00**, you are agreeing to make the full contribution of **£466.00** in order that the trip may take place. The initial, non-returnable deposit of **£100.00** will be required by **Friday 16 November 2018**. Further payments of £91.50 will be due by Monday 31 December 2018, Thursday 31 January 2019, and Thursday 28 February 2019. With final payment of £91.50, be paid by Friday 29 March 2019 at the latest. In case of financial hardship, support is available from the Opportunities Fund and a letter to the Principal will be dealt with confidentially and sympathetically.

The cost of this trip includes the transport, accommodation, food, insurance and entry fees. Please be aware that in the case of an insurance claim being necessary, you will be asked to reimburse St John's for any insurance excess paid on your behalf at the time of treatment in resort. Claims for lost/stolen/damaged personal effects will be paid less any relevant excess.

Payments are generally non-returnable unless the trip is cancelled by the school. Should the Student be withdrawn by parental request, the expenditure already committed by St John's will need to be paid, unless a replacement can be found. All such withdrawals should be discussed, in the first instance, with Mrs Pauline Marshall-Thomas. Please note there will be a 5% Admin charge made for any parental cancellation, unless the cancellation is due to a substantiated medical reason.

Payment should be made online through ParentPay; you will not need to return the paper permission slip if you pay online. Payment can still be made by cheque with the completed permission slip at the end of this letter. For security purposes we request that you do not make payments in cash, the Academy cannot be held responsible for the non-receipt of cash payments from students. After the initial deposit, you will be able to pay what you like, when you like to meet the payment deadlines. If you have mislaid your log in details please contact Mrs Shirley Woodburn on 01672 519567 or by emailing swoodburn@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk

Students will travel on a collective passport and will not therefore need to have their own passport unless they are not entitled to travel on a UK Collective Passport. In order that the correct forms are sent at a later date, please indicate on the form below, or in the notes section on ParentPay, your son's/daughter's place of birth.

Passport/medical/dietary information for your son/daughter will be requested during the lead up to the trip taking place. By the very nature of the trip, this information will be shared with the travel company we have booked through. They in turn will need to share it with the airline/ferry company, hotel and other providers as necessary, to ensure your son/daughter can travel and any special needs are met. By applying for a place on this trip, you are giving your consent for this information to be used for this purpose.

The organisation of all trips includes a comprehensive risk assessment. The Principal and Trip Organiser may choose to exclude from the trip any students whose behaviour or schoolwork is not satisfactory. *Any student withdrawn by St John's for these reasons will be at the expense of the parents. It is not possible to guarantee any refund of monies already committed by St John's and indeed expenses not already covered may be claimed from you.*

We hope that your child will be able to come on this fascinating trip.

Yours faithfully



Mr P Baldrey
Head of Department, History

Please return slip and payment to the Financial Mailbox located in the Atrium by the exit to the tennis/netball courts. These should be in an envelope marked for the attention of Mrs Pauline Marshall-Thomas and the student's name, tutor group, trip/event name, trip date and trip organiser must be detailed on it. Cheques should be made payable to 'St John's Marlborough'.

Yr 9 Visit to the Battlefields of the First World War – June 2019
Trip Organiser: Mr Baldrey

Students Name: Tutor Group:

1. I give permission for my son/daughter to be included in the above-proposed trip.
2. I enclose a voluntary contribution of £100.00 and confirm I will be making the full contribution by the final payment deadline.
3. I understand that there may be no refund due, should my child be withdrawn from the trip by St John's.
4. I accept that I will be liable for all costs incurred by St John's should I withdraw my child from the trip, should it not be possible to replace them with another student. I will also be responsible for any costs incurred in the transfer of places to a replacement should this occur.
5. Please detail any recent medical information that the school may not be aware of;

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- My son/daughter was born in (**town & country**)

Signature: Date:

Parent