



ABINGDON

6 November 2015

Dear Parents,

Each year we take a group of third form pupils to France for a three day tour of the battlefields of the Great War. These are fascinating to visit and the information imparted by the experienced guides who accompany us is very helpful to the boys since the Great War is not only part of the third form History syllabus but will also be useful to them at GCSE. Our intention is to visit the Somme and the Ypres Salient, departing at approximately 06.00 hours on Wednesday 13 April 2016 returning at approximately 19.00 hours on Friday 15 April 2016. **This is the last week of the Easter holidays.** The projected tour, undertaken through Anglia Battlefield Tours Ltd, will include the following:

- › A visit to the battlefields and cemeteries at Ypres including the Menin Gate, the German cemetery at Langemarck and Vancouver Corner (the site where gas was first used on the Western Front).
- › Dinner in the Grand Square at Ypres and chocolate shopping.
- › A visit to the battlefields and cemeteries on the Somme including a study of mine warfare at the Lochnagar Crater.
- › A visit to the Vimy Ridge and Wellington Quarry to see the tunnel network created for the Arras offensive of 1917.

The cost of the three day tour should be no more than £320 (as long as a minimum of forty five students go). This price includes coach travel, shuttle crossing, full board in hotel/hostel accommodation, museum entrance costs, the services of up guides, insurance cover and safety assessment. It does not cover lunch on the first day (normally students bring a packed lunch from home). The trip will be accompanied by members of the department. Places will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis. If you would like your son to join the trip please could you send me an e-mail, or, alternatively return the slip at the bottom of the letter, as soon as possible. **Please note that by completing the consent form (providing the trip proceeds) you are committing to the total cost of this trip. The School will proceed to make bookings and reservations to procure the best possible deals. The balance of payment being applied to your School bill is a convenient means of collecting the charge rather than a reflection of when liabilities are incurred.**

Yours sincerely

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