



From Head of History: David McGill

11 November 2016

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. Our intention is to visit the Somme and the Ypres Salient, departing at approximately 06.00 hours on Friday 21 April 2017 returning at approximately 19.00 hours on Sunday 23 April 2017. **This is the last weekend of the Spring 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
- > A visit to Vimy Ridge to see the battlefields of 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 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 and **closing date will be around 1 December 2016**. 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 means of spreading the cost rather than a reflection of when liabilities are incurred. Please also note that due to the current weakness of the pound to the euro and some instability in exchange rates the cost of the trip could increase (though we will endeavour to ensure this does not happen).

Yours sincerely

David McGill - *Head of History*  
[david.mcgill@abingdon.org.uk](mailto:david.mcgill@abingdon.org.uk)

Pupil's name: ..... Tutor:.....

My son would like to participate in the History trip to the Battlefields of the Great War from 21 April 2017-23 April 2017.

I understand that the cost of the trip will be approximately £320.

Signed:..... Date:.....