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Letter No: 030/2026

16th September 2026

Dear Families,

Year 9 Ypres Battlefields Trip – Friday 5th- Saturday 6th March 2027

We are delighted to offer Year 9 History students a fantastic enrichment opportunity to visit Ypres and the First World War Battlefields on **Friday 5th March – Saturday 6th March 2027**. We have designed an itinerary that will be beneficial to support your child's learning of this period in their current Year 9 History lessons.

This is a fantastic opportunity to allow our students to reflect on their learning in the classroom about the horrors of the First World War. Visiting the battlefields can be a very moving experience and will be an invaluable cultural experience for our students, which will significantly enhance their understanding of this important period in our shared history.

We will also have the opportunity to learn about warfare, trench conditions, medicine and injuries on the Western Front, which forms a part of the GCSE History: Medicine Through Time course that we teach in Year 11. Therefore, this experience may provide some contextual grounding for students considering History as a GCSE option in the future.

The itinerary has been designed to allow students to gain an appreciation of the landscape and conditions for the soldiers fighting in Europe. Our first day will tour the Ypres area including a visit to the preserved trench system at Bayernwald, the Memorial Museum at Passchendaele and Tyne Cot cemetery. Students will also take part in the prestigious daily act of remembrance at the Menin Gate in Ypres itself.

We will be travelling with Anglia Tours.

The cost of the trip will be **approximately £330-£360** which will include the following:

- Return travel via EuroTunnel
- Full board accommodation in Ypres
- Entry to all museums and sites
- Services of a specialist tour guide
- Travel insurance
- Packed lunches for both days

Payments will be spread across two payments; **a non-refundable deposit of £100 by 22nd September 2026 and the remaining balance by 1st December 2026 via ParentPay.**

If students wish to purchase snacks/gifts they will need to bring additional spending money. They may wish to bring additional snacks for the coach.

Your child will be notified soon after if they have gained a place on this trip and arrangements for outstanding instalments will be communicated. If the trip is oversubscribed, places will be allocated by lottery. If your child is not successful in gaining a place, your deposit will be refunded.

It is imperative that payment deadlines for this trip are strictly adhered to so that we can make the necessary payments to the tour operator and ensure that adequate numbers are secured. If payments are not received by the instalment dates, we would have no choice but to remove your child from the trip.

Please note, that by making a deposit for this trip, you are undertaking to make full payment by the given deadlines. Please also note, that Anglia Tours do not differ from other tour companies with regard to cancellations and cancellation fees will apply.

The school will follow all advice given by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Department for Education and our tour operators when it comes to overseas travel for school trips. The tour operators we use provide both ABTA and ATOL protection as part of our tour packages. In the event that the FCO advises “against all travel” to an area or region, then these policies provide protection to prevent any loss in case of necessary cancellation.

The school holds travel insurance through the Department for Education Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) which provides cover in case of travel disruption, medical issues and other emergencies. This insurance does not cover any personal items including money, phones, gadgets and clothing in case of loss, damage or theft. Should you decide to remove your child from any trip where travel is still advised then this will not be covered by insurance, ABTA or ATOL.

We hope the trip will be very enjoyable for students and that they use this opportunity to develop their studies.

Yours sincerely,

Lauren Edwards
Director of Learning: History & Politics

