



BORDEN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Borden Grammar School
Avenue of Remembrance
Sittingbourne
ME10 4DB

5 November 2018

To: Parents/Guardian of Year 9 Students

Dear Parents/Guardians

Year 9 History Trip to the Battlefields of the First World War

I am pleased to inform you that a trip has been arranged for Year 9 students to visit the Belgian and French Battlefields of Ypres and the Somme.

The group will depart on Friday, 14 June 2019 returning on Saturday, 15 June 2019. This has been a highly successful excursion for many years and we do hope that many boys will take part this year. The work studied contributes to modules studied at GCSE with an extensive itinerary (attached) which students always find very interesting. As usual, we will travel with Anglia Tours Ltd, who are a company with huge experience in running school visits to the battlefields.

The cost for each student will be £208. (This may change depending on numbers, but parents will be notified if any rise is necessary, before bookings are confirmed.) This price includes all travel costs, travel insurance, entry fees and all meals except breakfast and lunch on the first day. To apply for a place, students must return the consent form along with a non-returnable deposit of £50 by Thursday, 22 November. Further instalments can be made monthly between December and March.) In the event of oversubscription of the trip places will be allocated by ballot and deposits will be returned for those who have not been allocated a place. **Students will need their own valid passports and EHIC cards** (EHIC cards can be obtained free of charge at www.ehic.org.uk)

This is a visit for which we are, by law, unable to make a charge. However, school finances are such that the trip cannot take place unless we raise, by voluntary contributions, the necessary funding. We appreciate that some parents, especially those who receive Income Support or Family Credit may feel very limited in the contributions that they are able to make and anyone in these categories who wishes their son to have a place on the visit should make contact with the Headteacher in confidence so that their son is in no way whatever disadvantaged. Pupils who are eligible to go on the trip but who, whatever their parental circumstances, do not make a contribution must, under the law, be allowed to go, and for this reason I must make it clear that whether the trip actually takes place will depend very largely on the willingness of the parents to contribute as indicated. I very much hope that, as usual, this support will be forthcoming.

We prefer that payments for trips are either by made by cheque which can be deposited in a named envelope through the letter box in the Finance Office, or via the BGS online payment system. Details of how to make online payments have been issued in personalised letters for each student's parents. If you require a new copy, please contact the Finance Officer, Mrs Drury, at td@bordengrammar.kent.sch.uk and she will send one out. If cash payments are made for trips, students must deliver them in person to the Finance Officer or Bursar and a receipt will be issued. Cash payments can only be accepted at morning registration or morning break and **MUST NOT** be posted through the Finance Office letter box.



Headteacher: Mr J R Hopkins BA (Hons) NPQH



A couple of weeks before the trip an information meeting will be held for students and parents and updated information on medical needs will be collected. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at awhite@bordengrammar.kent.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully



Mr A White
Head of History

Year 9 Battlefields Trip

Please return this slip to Borden Grammar School Finance Office by **22 November 2018**

Name of Visit: **Year 9 Battlefields Trip**

Date of Visit: **14 & 15 June 2019**

Please tick each box that applies below

Name of Pupil: _____ **Form:** _____

Please tick all boxes that apply

- I have read the information about the proposed trip on the 14 and 15 June 2019 and wish my son to take part in the visit.
- I enclose £50.00 deposite towards the visit. Cash / Cheque* payable to Borden Grammar School. **please delete as appropriate*

OR

- I have made an online payment of £50.00.
- My son is entitled to a Free School Meal and I would like a canteen packed lunch provided (day trips) or FSM allowance provide for lunches when students are on a residential trip
- I attach, for the organiser, details of any ailments, allergy, condition or diet of which you may need to be aware in relation to the visit.
- My son has/does not have* a medical care plan at the school with additional information that needs to be acted upon as necessary **please delete as appropriate*
- I authorise the leaders of the trip to act on my behalf in an emergency and to sign on my behalf any consent forms required by medical authorities if they know it would not be advisable to wait for my signature.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Tel No: _____

**Please delete as appropriate*

ITINERARY – YEAR 9 BATTLEFIELDS 2019

Day 1 : Friday, 14 June 2019

05.30 1 x 75 seater executive coach with DVD arrives outside school on Avenue of Remembrance

06.00 Depart School

08.20 Outbound shuttle

10.00 Arrive France (local time)

11.00 Arrive Ypres area, to include:

11.15 **Bayernwald Trench System**

Subjects covered may include use of ground, trench construction, daily. Routine, technology, problems with trench fighting, role of the Generals.

13.00 **In Flanders' Field Museum, St George's Church**

Opened in March 1929, St George's is a Pilgrimage Church for the many thousands of people who visit the battlefields of the Ypres Salient as well as serving small resident congregation who live in Ypres and surrounding area.

Opportunity to view the plaque in memory of Borden Old Boys.

Bufs Road Cemetery

Bufs Road was the name given to a small lane, which ran between Boundary Road and Admiral's Road, just to the north of the hamlet of Wieltje. The cemetery was made and used by fighting units between July 1917 and March 1918.

Borden Grammar Old Boy pilgrimage – John Wells Welfare

Langemarck German Cemetery

German cemetery ethos, Slaughter of the Innocents, The significance of Hitler's 1940 visit; Links to the causes of WW2.

Tyne Cot

1917 – 3rd Ypres 'the Battle of Passchendaele'; Battlefield conditions; A chance to reflect.

18.00 Dinner in Ypres. The Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing.

20.00 Last Post Ceremony.

20.30 Depart for accommodation: **Messines Peace Village.**

21.00 Arrive at accommodation and then chocolate shopping.

Day 2 : Saturday, 15 June 2019

08.30 Depart accommodation after breakfast.

10.30 Arrive Somme, to include: **Grevillers CWGC.**
Borden Grammar Old Boy pilgrimage - John Joseph Warner

Serre and Sheffield Memorial Park

The Somme 1916; Kitchener's Army & the Pals Battalions; Recruitment; The Plan; Going over the top 1st July 1916.

Newfoundland Park

The Newfoundland Regiment on 1st July; Preserved trench system & an opportunity to walk across the battlefield.

Ulster Tower

The Story of the 36th Ulster Division, background to the Troubles: the story of Billy McFadzean VC.

Lochnagar Crater

The use of Mine warfare in the Great War;

Pozieres

A chance for reflection; Formal close of the tour.

17.00 Meal at Ocean Villas Tea Rooms:

Ocean Villas Tea Rooms
10 Rue Delattre
Auchonvilliers
80560
France
Tel: 0033 322 762366

18.00 Depart the Somme.

21.50 Inbound Shuttle.

21.30 Arrive UK (local time).

22.30 Arrive School (approx).