



A SPECIALIST SCIENCE SCHOOL

Headteacher  
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# Sandhurst School

the opportunity to succeed

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3rd February 2011

Dear Parent

The History Department are running a one-day visit to the First World War battlefields in Belgium on Saturday 2nd of April 2011. This visit is designed to complement the work on the First World War that all year 9 students will have completed by the end of this term. This visit will provide an opportunity to gain an insight into the conditions and losses suffered by all sides during the conflict.

We will be offering an action-packed one-day excursion that will provide students with a varied programme of activities. Due to the length of the journey to Belgium, students will be expected to arrive at school no later than 4.50am. From School we will travel by coach and Channel Tunnel to the Belgium city of Ypres, the ancient heart of the Flanders region. From here, the students will be guided around the important battlefield sites, witnessing the places where men from both sides suffered and died. Students will see the execution post where deserters were shot at dawn, compare both German and British war cemeteries, visit the site of the first ever poison gas attack and explore a genuine trench system. The notorious Flanders mud is still very much evident in these trenches so a change of footwear is highly recommended! The day is brought to a poignant close with a visit to the largest British military cemetery in the world at Tyne Cot, where we will examine the German defences that made the attack on Passchendaele Ridge so costly. The coach is expected to return to school at approximately 10pm.

Unfortunately, we can only offer this experience to 40 students and in the past the visit has proved to be immensely popular. If your son or daughter would like to be considered for a place we would ask that they explain, in writing, their reasons for wanting to go to Belgium in the box below. The cost of the visit will be £75 per student, which includes an expert guide, who will accompany us on our tour, travel costs, entrance fees and insurance. Students are recommended to bring a packed lunch and, due to the unusual length of the day, money to purchase additional food. An EHIC (European Health Insurance) card will be necessary for all students taking part in this day visit and one of these can be ordered online or from your local post office. Students will also be expected to be holders of a valid passport, with any additional documentation necessary for entering an EU country.

Applications should be handed to your son or daughters History teacher before **Friday 18th February**. Successful applicants will be informed during the week commencing on Monday 28th February. We will then request payment and completed OHA2 forms from the students who have secured a place.

Should you require any more details about this visit, then please feel free to contact me at school.

Yours Sincerely

Mr G Wilton  
History Department

Would you prefer to receive your letters by Email? If so, please notify the school and provide us with your Email address



**Please return to your son/daughter's History teacher before Friday 18th February 2011**

Student Name: .....

Tutor Group.....

I would like to attend the 2011 battlefields visit to Belgium because.....