



Headmistress: Mrs J M Robinson BA

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Year 9 History Trip to First World War Battlefields, Belgium; 19-20 May 2017

A major part of the Year 9 History curriculum involves studying the First World War: why it began, who fought in it, and what the fighting was like. In particular, we examine the extent to which films such as *All Quiet on the Western Front*, and newsreels produced under government oversight, can tell us what it was really like to fight in the trenches.

To help make this topic come to life, we would like to offer your daughter the chance to visit some of the historic sites in and around Ypres and the Somme, both scenes of key battles. We plan to visit a hospital cemetery at Lijssenthoek; Tyne Cot cemetery and memorial to the missing; Langemark German cemetery; and the Beaumont Hamel Newfoundland Memorial, which commemorates an unsuccessful Canadian attack on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. We will also attend the Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres.

Last year's trip proved both educational and emotional, and is highly recommended by those who attended. Your daughter need not be considering History GCSE to attend and enjoy the trip. That said, the new GCSE syllabus includes a thematic study of 'Medicine Through Time' and draws on medical provisions in the First World War. If your daughter is wishing to take GCSE History, this would be an excellent opportunity to experience the reality of conditions on the Western Front and subsequent impact on medicine.

The trip will take place from Friday 19th to Saturday 20th May 2017. The estimated cost is **£110-120** which includes a voluntary contribution for travel and tuition and a charge for board and lodgings.

There are 80 places available, which will be allocated on a first come first served basis. If you would like your daughter to attend, please return the reply slip below and a deposit for £30 **as soon as possible and certainly by 19th July**. This can be done through the Wisepay payment portal; a cheque made payable to Presdales School; or cash. Please return cheques or cash to Mrs Eyre, in an envelope labelled with your daughter's name, form group and "Y9 Battlefields Trip 2017".

If you have difficulty paying the full £30 deposit within this timeframe, or can foresee circumstances which may affect your ability to pay the balance, please enclose an accompanying letter with the reply slip and a smaller deposit. Fuller details of the trip and a request for the balance will follow in due course.

Yours faithfully,

Miss J Powell
History Department

To: Mrs Eyre
I would like my daughter _____, form _____, to go on the Battlefields trip on 19-20 May 2017. I enclose a deposit of £30.

Signed: _____ Date _____

