



16th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

C8 visit to Belgium; Ypres and WW1 battlefields -Thursday 5th June to Saturday 7th June 2025

We are very excited to launch a new Enrichment experience specifically for learners in C8; a visit to Belgium, Ypres and WW1 battlefields. The trip is limited to **45 places** so it is essential that if families are interested in their child attending that they pay the initial deposit quickly to avoid disappointment.

This school trip to the WW1 battlefields around Ypres, Belgium focuses on the journey of a WW1 soldier. On the first day, the group will travel to Ypres to learn about what a soldier would have experienced on the frontline. They will visit the graves of soldiers, both Commonwealth and German, to learn how many fell and now rest on those frontlines. On day 2, learners will learn about the Battle of Arras, with visits to Vimy Ridge to see the trenches and Wellington Quarry to enjoy a guided tour of the tunnels there. The day will end poignantly with the group invited to attend the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. On day 3, they will follow a soldier's evacuation route from the frontline to an advanced dressing station, on to a casualty clearing station and then back to the UK. By following this journey, learners will experience how conditions on the Western Front revolutionised medicine and surgery and how these advancements are still important in modern-day medicine. If your child is considering History GCSE as an option, this will support their learning in this subject.

The 3 day, 2 night visit will take place from the **5th - 7th June 2025**. **The cost of the visit is £330**. The itinerary is provisional; a final itinerary for parents/carers will be shared at the pre-visit meeting, which will include full details of packing lists, and logistics. Please note that this trip will require an early departure from school, leaving at 6am on 5th June 2025. The cost of the visit includes coach transport, ferry crossing and all tolls/taxes. The learner accommodation is on a full board basis with shared rooms with an en-suite. All entrance fees are also included in the cost.

As mentioned, the trip has limited spaces and will be live on ParentPay for the £50 deposit to be paid. The travel operator is currently holding our accommodation and we require deposits by 9am Monday 23rd September 2024. (If you are unsuccessful in securing a place, we will hold a waiting list.) If you would like your child to attend but are not able to provide the necessary deposit by Friday, please contact Mrs Zanatta in the school office to discuss an alternative payment plan. Once your place has been secured, we will then require further payments for the trip by instalments as follows:

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| <i>Initial non-refundable deposit - by 9am 23rd September 2024</i> | £50 |
| 30 th October 2024 | £50 |
| 30 th November 2024 | £50 |
| 30 th December 2024 | £50 |
| 30 th January 2025 | £50 |
| 28 th February 2025 | £50 |
| 30 th March 2025 | £30 |

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Currently, we have no additional information regarding the new visa system to be brought in for British travellers to Europe. Should this be implemented by the time your child travels, there may be an additional cost for the visa waiver. The estimate for this is currently €7.

Should your child withdraw from the visit, a refund will be issued following the guidance by the tour operator, excluding the non-refundable deposit (We are bound by the travel companies' terms and conditions, these can be found at <https://www.halsbury.com/booking-conditions>) The School is covered by Zurich Insurance for all trips and visits. Details can be found through our website.

Could I also draw your attention to a document on our website 'Payment for Enrichment Opportunities at Honywood' which is also available to read on our website. If you have any questions regarding the Enrichment Programme at Honywood, please contact Mrs Frogley, Enrichment Leader cfrogley@honywoodschool.com. We also offer support to families in financial difficulty in the form of extended payment plans. In certain circumstances we are also able to subsidise part of the cost to families who meet our criteria. Please see the details on our website 'Hardship'.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly on rsorapure@honywoodschool.com should there be any concerns prior to this visit.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Sorapure
Subject Leader History