



9th January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 8 Students

Battlefields Trip 2018

I am proposing to take a group of students to the Battlefields of Northern France and Belgium to enhance their knowledge and understanding of this topic. It is a trip that has taken place every year since 2003 which the students that take part in get a lot from.

The guided tour of the Battlefields will begin on the morning of Thursday 22nd November. We will travel by coach to France to stay at 'Poppies d'Albert'. The itinerary is not yet confirmed, but we will be spending Friday on the Somme visiting places such as Vimy Ridge, Newfoundland Memorial Park and Thiepval Memorial to the Missing. We will travel to Ypres in Belgium for the Last Post Ceremony at Menin Gate and then spend the night at 'Hotel Oude Abdij'. We will spend Saturday exploring the Ypres Salient visiting places such as Tyne Cot Cemetery and Sanctuary Wood. It will be a packed programme on all three days. We will return to College on the evening of Saturday 24th November.

Included in the cost of this trip is the transport, accommodation, entrance to museums and sites, insurance and meals. The first included meal will be an evening meal on Thursday and the last meal will be an evening meal on the ferry on our return journey on the Saturday. The cost of the trip will be £285.

In order for this activity to take place, we ask you to make a contribution of £285. Although such a contribution is voluntary, in reality we have no alternative source of funding. If sufficient contributions are not received to make this visit financially viable it will be cancelled and all contributions refunded. In cases of financial hardship, any requests for the contribution will be treated sympathetically; please contact the Principal in writing or by e-mail. As this educational visit is taking place in school hours, we are not permitted by law (Education Act 1996) to exclude from such a visit children of parents choosing not to contribute to the cost. If your child is eligible for pupil premium grant support and you would like to access some of this funding towards this trip, then please indicate on the reply slip below.

If you would like your child to be considered for a place on this trip, you need to complete and return the permission slip to the Finance Office with a non-refundable deposit of £95 by Monday 5th February. We would prefer this to be paid online as not only is it the most secure method of payment, it also saves on the cost of administration. Please speak to the Finance Office if you need a reminder how to use the online payment system. Students will be informed in college that their place has been secured. A second payment of £95 will be due by Friday 18th May. This is also non-refundable. The balance of £95 will be due by Friday 6th July. Please make a note of payment deadlines to aid with the planning of the trip. Your child will need his or her own passport to travel and a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).

Please note that places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis and that we have had waiting lists for the last seven years due to the popularity of the trip. If you would like to speak to me, please contact me at the college by email, rmustill@elycollege.co.uk There will be a parents' meeting in the autumn term that will finalise plans. You will be notified of the date in due course.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Rachael Mustill
Trip Leader

To: Finance Office – Battlefields November 2018 – Mrs Mustill

Student's Name..... Form Gender

- I give permission for my child to take part in the Battlefields trip
- I have paid £95 online (preferred method of payment)
- I enclose a cheque for £95 made payable to Ely College
- I understand that this deposit is non-refundable
- My child is eligible for pupil premium grant support and I would like to access some of this funding towards this trip
- I give permission for photographs of my child to be used in College publicity (including the website)

Signed (Parent/Carer) _____ Date _____

Please complete the following:

Surname (as on passport)	
First name (as on passport)	
Date of birth	
Nationality	
Age on date of travel	
Address	
Contact telephone number(s)	
Special diet (eg vegetarian)	
Allergies	
Medical condition(s) Please detail	
Any other information that you feel we should be aware of	
I give my permission for to my son /daughter to take part in the educational activities in Northern France and Belgium in accordance with the arrangements that have been outlined. In the event of the above named student needing urgent medical attention, I consent to one of the Trip Leaders acting on my behalf to give permission for urgent medical treatment, including anaesthetic if required.	Please sign in this box