

Church Stretton School
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13th July 2019

Dear parents/carers,

We are delighted to offer all students in Year 9 an exciting opportunity to visit France and Belgium to tour the battlefields of the First World War. The four-day trip will take place from 13-16th July and will include visits to Passchendaele, Tyne Cot and Langemark cemeteries, Vimy Ridge in the Somme and the last post at the Menin Gate in Ypres. The full price of £325 includes transport, channel crossing, full board accommodation and entry to museums in Flanders and the Somme. This is an excellent opportunity to consolidate students' learning outside of the classroom and the First World War also forms a key part of the new GCSE history course. If you are entitled to Pupil Premium funding, we may be able to offer a subsidy towards the trip; please contact myself or Mr Overton for further details.

If you are interested in a place, we would like a deposit of £50 to secure a place; we will then put in place a detailed payment plan to assist with your budgeting. The deadline to apply for a place on this trip will be Friday 20th September 2019. Please be aware that deposits received after this date cannot be guaranteed a place and that paying a deposit will lead us to confirm places; withdrawing once numbers are confirmed and bookings have been made could leave you liable to pay the full costs. If the price does change (this is dependent on final numbers) between now and confirmation of booking, you will be informed before making any final decisions. Please note that cheques and cash will no longer be accepted in the school office. All payments will need to be made online at www.ParentPay.com through your activated account. If you do not have access to the internet, you will need to contact the school to request a barcoded letter and pay at local stores where you see the PayPoint logo. We will need a minimum of 36 students to run this trip so if there is not sufficient interest then this money will be refunded.

This trip takes place in Enrichment Week which will also include other opportunities and trips within the UK and abroad. The information has now been sent out and further details are available on the school website.

Please note that the rules for travel to most countries in Europe will change if the UK leaves the European Union (EU) with no deal. Therefore, all British passport holders must have at least six months remaining on their passport from your date of arrival, otherwise they may be refused entry. This applies to adult and child passports. It is also a school requirement that a parent or carer must hold a current passport in cases of emergency; if you renewed a 10 year adult passport before it expired, extra months may have been added to your passport's expiry date. These extra months will not count.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Miss L Sollars
Head of Humanities