



HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL
An Academy Trust

KL/ajp

25 March 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians

**CURRENT YEAR 8 : HISTORY DEPARTMENT TRIP TO THE FIRST WORLD WAR
BATTLEFIELDS WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER - SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2015**

The History Department is pleased to offer the above trip to boys who will be in Year 9 in the 2015 – 2016 academic year. The trip has been timed to coincide with their study of World War One and is offered as a reinforcement of their school work and as an interesting and stimulating experience in its own right.

This will be the tenth year in succession that we have run this trip. The previous nine trips have been highly successful. We are again fortunate to have secured the services of Mr Andrew Spooner, a nationally renowned expert on the battlefields. The tour is organised by 'Skylark', Mr Spooner's company and any boys with an interest in the subject will be inspired by Mr Spooner's knowledge and enthusiasm. Pupils will also be accompanied by Hitchin Boys' School staff.

The trip will leave early on the morning of 30th September and will travel by coach to the Channel Tunnel. Once in France we will make for the town of Ypres in Belgium. The accommodation will be very suitable - the party will have sole occupancy of a floor in a hotel built especially to cater for student parties. We will stay in Ypres for 1 night and will then travel to Albert in France for 2 nights in order to visit the battlefields of the Somme. We hope to arrive back in Hitchin on the evening of Saturday 3rd October. It is necessary for all student travellers to have their own valid EU passport and European Health Card (EHIC). If your son does not hold an EU passport, please let me know as soon as possible.

I hope you will be interested in sending your son on this trip. The final cost will vary according to the number of pupils in the party, and also to the unpredictable issues of pound/euro valuation and the cost of fuel. I would anticipate that the cost per person would be in the region of £300 to include transport, accommodation, breakfast/evening meals and basic travel insurance.

If you would like your son to participate in the trip, I would be grateful if you would complete the reply slip below and return it to the School Office letterbox by Friday 24 April 2015. Applications received after this date will not be accepted. Please note if we confirm your son's name on the list of those travelling, a deposit of £50 will become payable immediately, with the balance payable in July 2015. If the trip is oversubscribed, we will hold a draw for places. Once places are confirmed I will write again with further information regarding the payment schedule. At this point a place will be reserved for your son with the tour operator. If your son subsequently withdraws from the trip please be aware that some or all of the monies paid may be non-refundable depending on the payment schedule to the tour operator or to Hitchin Boys' School.

Head Teacher: Mr M Brown



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The School reserves the right not to take a student on the trip if they are not making appropriate progress and if their behaviour in School is deemed unacceptable.

If you require financial assistance please write to the Head Teacher in confidence.

In the meantime if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me at the School.

Yours sincerely

D. Kelly
History Department

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Please return this slip to the School Office letterbox NOT IN AN ENVELOPE: 'Battlefields TRIP 2015'

I would like my son (name): _____ Tutor group: _____

to go on the History trip to the Battlefields from 30th September – 3rd October 2015. I understand that registering our interest confirms our commitment to pay the required £50 non-refundable deposit. I also understand that should my son be confirmed on the trip and he subsequently withdraws, monies paid may be non-refundable depending on the payment schedule to the tour operator or to Hitchin Boys' School.

I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that my son is fit to travel and will seek medical confirmation if I have any concerns.

Has your son applied for an overseas trip previously and been unsuccessful?: YES/NO

If Yes – please indicate which trip and when: _____

Signed: _____ (parent/guardian) Date: _____