

July 2010

Dear Parents

ACTIVITY DAY – 15TH OCTOBER 2010

I am writing to inform you of the arrangements for the next Activity Day for Year 9. This will be a visit to Ypres, France on Friday 15th October 2010. The purpose of the trip is about Good Citizenship and understanding the purpose of Remembrance for all those injured or sacrificed in war.

The coaches will leave school at **5.00 am** in time for the 7.50 am shuttle service, and return around **midnight**. Your daughter should bring a packed lunch with her (no glass bottles, please). There may be time for breakfast at the Folkestone terminal of the shuttle on the outward journey and an evening meal in Ypres prior to the return journey. The students will require a valid passport.

The coach must, of course, be left immaculate at the end of the day. Cameras, I-phones etc may be taken at the students' own risk. School uniform need not be worn, but girls should bear in mind that they are still representing the school and as such should dress appropriately. Sensible shoes and outdoor clothing is essential (i.e. no short or low cut tops or inappropriate fashion items). Girls should wear clothes and shoes that are comfortable for walking in. They should also bring waterproofs and a change of clothing in case of bad weather and Wellington boots to wear in the trenches. Normal school rules will apply, including not smoking and not drinking alcohol at any time.

The students will be supervised at all times except for about an hour in Ypres, when they should always remain in groups of at least three. If they have any problems, they should go to the main square in Ypres and find their History teacher. They will not need more than £10 in sterling and €15 euros if they want to buy any drinks or souvenirs and to cover the cost of an evening meal; museum entrance is already paid for.

The cost of the trip is £42.00 and payment is required by Sunday 26th September.

As with most school trips we are only allowed to ask parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost. **This payment is not compulsory, but if insufficient voluntary contributions are raised to fund the visit, then it will be cancelled.**

Parents who can prove they are in receipt of the following benefits will be exempt from paying the cost of the trip:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- Child tax Credit, provided that Working Tax Credit is **not** also received and the family's income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs) does not exceed £16,040 (Financial Year 2009/10);
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit; and
- An income related employment and support allowance that was introduced on 27 October 2008.

Please pay for this trip using ParentPay. If you have any problems making payment on ParentPay please telephone Mrs Martin or Mrs Emery on 01702 476026 to make payment over the telephone. **Payment is required no later than 26th September. Please note that it is also now a requirement that you tick the 'parental consent' box on ParentPay to confirm that your daughter will be attending this trip.**

We will also require the help of some parents on this trip, if you are able to help please indicate on the reply slip below.

To the students: remember to bring your passport and up-to-date **European Health Insurance Card (formerly E111). Application for the EHIC can be made online @ www.ehic.org.uk.**

If you hold a non-EU passport please arrange for your daughter to bring her passport to the school office as soon as possible so that a photocopy can be taken as we will need to arrange for the necessary visa.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Jenkins
Head of Department

P S The names of all those killed in the First (and Second) World War are now listed on the Internet. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Debt of Honour Register gives the name, rank, company, and date and place of death of each soldier and whatever else is known. The address of the site is: <http://www.cwgc.org>



Return to box outside school office

WESTCLIFF HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Year 9 Citizenship visit to Ypres – Friday 15th October 2010

I give permission for my daughter of formto attend the trip to Ypres on Friday 15th October. I will pay for the trip on ParentPay **by Sunday 26th September.**

I am able to help supervise on the day I am not able to help supervise on the day

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Parent/Guardian)