

SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

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January 2012

History Department Visit to the First World War Battlefields Friday 10 February-Sunday 12 February 2012

Dear Parent

I am writing to inform you of the final details for the History Department Visit to the First World War Battlefields of France and Belgium on **10-12 February 2012**. Students are required to travel **on their own individual passport**. Insurance is included in the cost of the trip and students should bring with them, if possible, a valid European Health Insurance Card in order to cover medical costs in the unlikely event that this may be required during the visit.

Accommodation throughout the visit will be at the CJT De Lork Hostel in Kemmel, the contact details for which are:

CJT De Lork
Kattekerthofstraat
B 8956 Heuveland-Kemmel
Belgium
Telephone: 0032 (0) 5744 59 70

Sevenoaks School has stayed at the hostel on many previous occasions and we have always been impressed by the high standards to which it is run. However, given that it is a hostel, the students are required to bring with them their own **towel** and **toiletries**, including shower gel/soap. Students are also strongly advised to bring with them warm clothing, including a suitable waterproof coat, as the weather in this region can be somewhat wet and cold! It is also important that students bring suitable footwear, such as sensible walking shoes or trainers, as some of the tracks can be muddy, as well as a pair of shoes for inside the hostel.

In the evenings students will be expected to attend short discussion groups in which the significance of the sites visited will be explored. Students are therefore required to bring a pen with them. Students may also wish to bring a camera and a limited amount of money in Euros, although all meals are included in the cost of the visit: packed lunches and evening meals will be provided by the hostel. Should you need to contact a member of staff during the visit, one of us will be available on the following mobile number: 07774 452928

On the following page you will find a check list of essential items, and the itinerary.

Check list:

Passport

European Health Insurance Card

Towel, toiletries, raincoat, walking shoes/trainers, umbrella, Euros and Wellington boots if desired.

Itinerary:**Friday 10 February**

07:30 Departure from Solefields carpark.
10:20 Board shuttle from Folkestone to Calais.
15:00 Guided tour of the tunnel systems and trenches at Vimy Ridge.
17:00 Arrive at CJT De Lork Hostel in Kemmel.
22:00 Students to be in rooms.
22:30 Lights out.

Saturday 11 February

08:00 Depart hostel for the Somme.
Tour of Beaumont-Hamel and Newfoundland Memorial Park,
visits to: Thiepval Monument; La Boisselle mine crater,
and other memorials on the Somme.
20:00 Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres.
22:00 Students to be in rooms.
22:30 Lights out.

Sunday 12 February

09:00 Check out of hostel and depart for Ypres.
10:00 Visit Ypres: Tynecot and Langemarck cemeteries.
16:50 Board Shuttle for Folkestone.
16.30 Arrive at Folkestone.
17:30 Arrive at Solefields carpark, Sevenoaks School.

We are hoping for a full, exciting and valuable weekend. Should you have any concerns or queries regarding the visit please do not hesitate to contact me. Fingers crossed for nice weather!

Yours sincerely

Miss Emily Boulton
History Department
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