



# The New Beacon

EX FUMO DARE LUCEM

16 November 2023

## Y8 HISTORY STUDY TRIP Ypres and The Somme

### WW1 BATTLEFIELDS HISTORY TRIP TO FRANCE AND BELGIUM

1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

Dear Year 7 Parents,

As part of the History curriculum, the boys learn about the First World War in the Middle School, which is then revised at the start of Year 8.

In the first half of the 20th century, The New Beacon was known as a boarding school to which military officers would send their sons. This is why our “houses” are called “companies”. Every year as part of our Remembrance, we remember the 115 Old Beaconians, who paid the ultimate sacrifice serving their country, many falling in the Ypres Salient and on The Somme.

On this trip, we will visit some of the memorials and cemeteries from the Great War, two excellent museums, and witness the moving Last Post ceremony, which is held every night in Ypres. We will be following the same itinerary as the successful trip in October 2023.

This year’s trip is a three-day trip, departing early on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October, and returning early evening on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024.

**VISITS:** Tyne Cot Cemetery, Memorial Museum Passchendaele, Langemark German Cemetery, Vimy Ridge, Wellington Quarry, Lochnagar Crater, Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial Park, Hawthorn Ridge Crater, Thiepval Memorial, Hooge Crater Museum, Dragoon Camp Cemetery and The Menin Gate Last Post ceremony.

#### **OTHER DETAILS:**

- Travel will be by coach and the Eurotunnel.
- The coach will remain with us throughout the trip.
- Accommodation will be at the excellent “Menin Gate” hostel. We will have sole occupation.

<https://www.meningate.eu/accommodations/menin-gate-ypres/>

#### **COST:**

The cost of the trip is £375\* (\*based on **37 boys**)

The cost includes executive coach travel, travel on the Eurotunnel, accommodation in an excellent youth hostel in central Ypres with sole occupancy, all meals (save for the outgoing packed lunch), all visits and activities, and insurance. There is a games room for evening activities.

It does not include pocket money.

### BOOKING:

1. If you wish your son to take part in the trip, please fill in the form and return it to me as soon as possible. The closing date is **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023**.
2. Your form must be accompanied by a first instalment of £125. This instalment to be paid by bank transfer.
3. There are two further payments of £125. These will be added to the Spring and Summer term bills.
4. If you prefer, you may pay the full amount in one payment.

### PASSPORTS AND UK GLOBAL HEALTH INSURANCE CARD

Your son will need to have his own, individual passport, valid for at least 6 months from the return date of our trip. I would recommend that you obtain one at least three months prior if your son does not already have one. If your son requires a visa for France or Belgium, please ensure you have applied for a visa in good time and inform Mr Vincent on [james.vincent@newbeacon.org.uk](mailto:james.vincent@newbeacon.org.uk) accordingly.

Your son will also need to have his own EHIC card or UK Global Health Insurance Card (UK GHIC). For EHIC, please check the date on it to ensure it is still valid. If you have an existing EHIC, it will remain valid until the expiry date on the card. If he does not have one, please order a UK GHIC in plenty of time. Applications can be made online.

[Applying for healthcare cover abroad \(GHIC and EHIC\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Mobile phones are not permitted on the trip. They may bring a camera, at their own risk.

Based on many visits to World War One sites in Northern France and Belgium, this experience can be very thought-provoking, moving, and one which is often long remembered. We hope you feel this trip will be of interest to your son.

I will send you full information about the History Study Trip in September.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Vincent  
Head of History  
Director of Studies

### NOTES

#### SUPERVISION

Supervision ratios for this residential trip is in line with Kent guidelines. In certain areas (e.g. in the Shuttle terminal) boys will be allowed to go off in groups of four (minimum) within a small, restricted area, for a short period of time. At such times, all staff will be in the area concerned. Two members of staff will be 'on duty' in a strategic position (the meeting point), and the rest of the staff will patrol the area. The boys will all know the exact whereabouts of the duty staff, and will be given a specific time at which to meet up again.

#### HEALTH AND SAFETY

The accompanying staff have many years of experience of taking school parties abroad, and are familiar with this particular itinerary. A full risk assessment is in place for this trip.

Accompanying staff have had First Aid training.

We are using a reputable travel company, [School Study Trips \(selectschooltravel.com\)](http://selectschooltravel.com).

## BOOKING FORM FOR THE HISTORY STUDY TRIP 2024

*Please complete and return to Mr Vincent (closing date: **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023**)*

### **Section 1. To be completed by the parent:**

Son's name: ..... Form: .....

I would like my son to take part in the History Study Trip, 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

#### **I have transferred the deposit of £125**

I will arrange for my son to have his own passport for the trip, valid for at least six months from our return date. I will arrange for a visa, if applicable.

I will arrange for my son to have his own UK GHIC card for the trip. (Please ensure the date is still valid)

#### **Tick as appropriate:**

I have paid an initial payment of £125 by bank transfer. Please make the reference your son's surname followed by 'Y8 Ypres'.

OR

I have paid a payment of £375 by bank transfer. Please make the reference your son's surname followed by 'Y8 Ypres'.

Bank details - Bank: NatWest

Branch: Sevenoaks

Branch address: 67, High Street, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1LA

Sort Code: 60-19-02

Account Number: 25830937

Account Name: Tonbridge School – New Beacon

Signed : ..... Date: .....

### **Section 2. To be completed by the pupil:**

I have read and understood the information in this letter.

I would like to take part in the trip.

I agree to behave responsibly and to abide by all the rules and instructions given by the teachers and any authorities on the trip. I understand that mobile phones are not permitted on the trip.

Signed: ..... Date: .....